

**AN IMPROMPTU
ASCENT OF
MONT BLANC**

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An Impromptu Ascent of Mont Blanc by W. H. Le Mesurier

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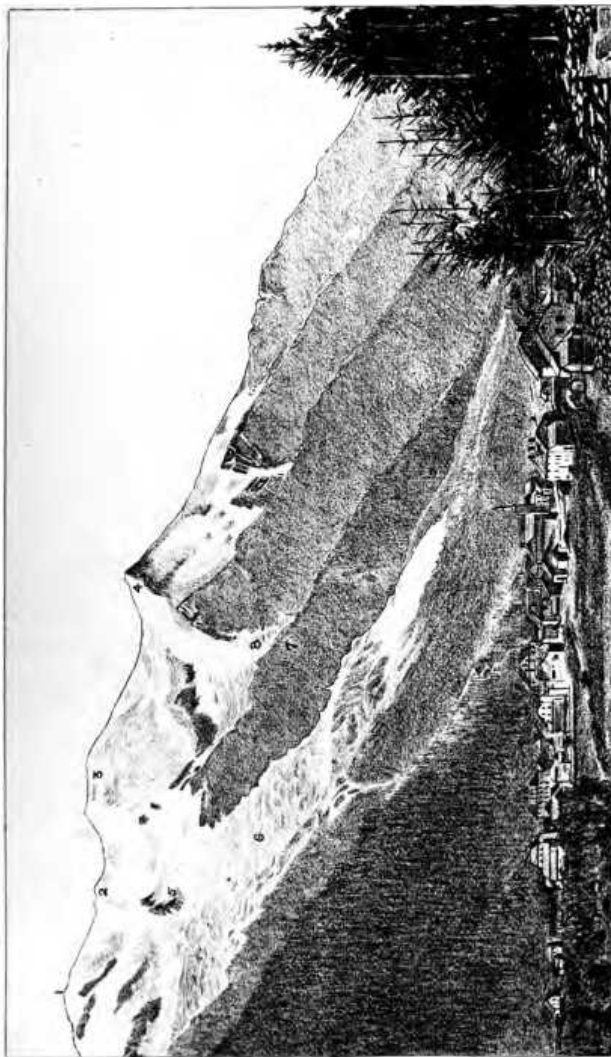
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W. H. LE MESURIER

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VILLAGE OF CHAMONIX.

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|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Summit of Mont Blanc. | Fosse de Dromadaire. | Donc du Goxe. | Agaille du Grotte. | Grande Mueuse. | Glacier des Roseaux. | Montagne de la Côte. | Glacier de l'Arconata. |



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BY
W. H. LE MESURIER.



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P R E F A C E .



THE interest which still follows individual ascents of Mont Blanc, notwithstanding the attraction of other mountain peaks, must be my apology for once again repeating an oft-told tale; but with this endeavour, to make the narrative a true and unvarnished account of what we did and how we did it, and to present the accompanying illustrations (which, for the most part, are taken from photographs) free from exaggeration.





C O N T E N T S .



CHAPTER I.

Evening at Chamonix—Excursion to the Brévent—View of the Mont Blanc chain.

CHAPTER II.

Commencement of the ascent—Pierre Pointue—Crossing the Glacier des Bossons—An awkward bit—"Cabane" on the Grands Mulets.

CHAPTER III.

View from the Grands Mulets—A foreign invasion—Trying to sleep—Preparation for a night march.

CHAPTER IV.

The start at midnight—Ascending the Montées—Arrival at the Petit Plateau—An attempt at breakfast on the Grand Plateau—The expedition jeopardised through mountain sickness—Churlish "foreigners"—The ascent resumed—Repose on the Rochers des Bosses—Climbing the Mauvaise Arête—The final assault—The goal reached.

CHAPTER V.

Descending the "back bone"—Approach of clouds—An unfortunate slip—Floundering in the snow—In danger—An awkward descent—In and out of the snow—The "Cabane" at last—Delicious repose—The journey resumed—Re-crossing the Glacier—A thunderstorm in the Forest des Pèlerins—Welcome back.

CHAPTER VI.

A few words on our complexions—Certificates procured—Ladies' preparation for an attempt—Nipped in the bud—Concluding remarks.

APPENDIX.

A brief account of some of the most noted ascents—Routes to Chamonix from the Lake of Geneva.

