

They ascended the Sosbon Glacier to its col, 17,000 feet; north of it is the Cornice Glacier which has a col to the Biafo Glacier, and is separated from the Hispar Glacier by an unbroken granite wall.

In the middle of August 1903 they climbed the Pyramid Peak to a height of 23,394 feet.

The Pyramid-peak was entirely snow-bound, its apex being formed by a pointed, sharply-defined cornice, which soared into the deep-blue sky like the curling crest of a mighty wave about to break. Directly beneath the cornice is a tremendous precipice, while on its east side the mountain falls in another precipice some 7000 feet to Basin glacier below. This is a type of many high Karakoram peaks which end in similar cornices pointing towards the north, and usually overhanging abrupt precipices.... The direction in which they point is due to the prevalence of south and south-west winds.

Of the Kero Lungma Glacier they observed that it had »evidently diminished greatly in size in recent times». Such was also the case with the Hucho Alchori.

Almost all glaciers visited by the Workmans showed evident signs of retreat in recent years. A few more examples of the phenomenon may be given. They found it to be no uncommon occurrence that glaciers might recede from considerable distances without leaving behind débris of any size. Such an example was given by the Chogo Lungma which retreated 1,184 feet in 42 years, leaving a smooth river-bed below it.¹ About the Shafat Glacier in the Nun Kun, on the other hand, it is said: »The valley-bed immediately in front of it, though somewhat strewn with small stones, bears no terminal moraine to indicate that the glacier has in recent times extended lower down than at present....» The ZI Glacier of the same group had no terminal moraine in 1906, and had been receding constantly and rather rapidly for some time.²

The journey described in the book just quoted began April 1906 from Srinagar, and was the fifth trip of the Workmans. They now made a Himalayan snow and glacier group the object of their researches. Passing Suru and crossing the Suru River they camped at the foot of the Shafat Glacier 13,350 feet high, from where they attacked the Nun Kun group. The Shafat Glacier was ascended, and Camp Italia was situated 20,632 feet high on the Nun-Kun Plateau at the N. E. foot of the highest Nun-Kun peak or Ser, 23,447 feet. Camp America on the same snow plateau was at 21,300 feet, and was believed to be the highest point at which mountaineers had passed a night. The Pinnacle Peak, 23,300 feet high, was ascended. The Fariabad Glacier was found to end suddenly at the edge of the ZI Glacier. The Chogo Lungma had, as mentioned above, retreated 1,184 feet in 42 years. Going down the two last-mentioned glaciers they again ascended to the North-West Glacier. The North-West Col had an altitude of 17,397 feet.

¹ W. HUNTER WORKMAN: *An exploration of the Nun Kun Mountain group and its glaciers. Geographical Journal.* January 1908. Vol. XXXI, p. 35.

² *Peaks and Glaciers of Nun Kun*, London 1909, p. 117.