1931

Aug. 11. We found it a long & weary pull up to Belalp which we reached at 7.30 just as it began to rain. After breakfast we had a sleep & another after lunch.

Aug 12. We got off at 7.30 sending our luggage to Brolla & walked down to Brigue. I changed my shirt & stockings at the station. While there Maurice & Sig. Devan Benn & a West Coast named Murdoch appeared. They were off to Zermatt. We went into Brigue & bought things including a Sherry & then had lunch at the Station & took train to Martigny, train to Sembrancher & walk up to Finhaut & stopping at Hotel Carron.

Aug 13 A fine morning we left at 5 & walked up to the Pannossin Shed with heavy loads getting there at 1. After lunch we had a sleep. Then some food & many cups. I went partly and climbed the Combin & Corbassière rotten arêtes off for it's future use. The Combin itself had not been climbed. We decided to go it next day.

Aug. 14 I had evidently got a chill & was suffering from diarrhoea, we got off at 2.15 & went on till 4.45. We were told there would be fresh snow, but no fresh experience was any justification that we should on that. It was not in a good condition. The weather was not giving to hold & I did not want to get wet. So we decided to return. We had some food & got back to the hut at 6.45 & left at 7.15 & got to Finhaut at 10.30 in slight rain. I changed & went to bed & had no lunch & my got up for a minute & then to bed again.

Aug 15 Got down at 9 & strolled about. Slept after lunch, sent off luggage & stay rain.

Aug 16. We caught the 10.5 train down. Giving up all idea of getting to Arolla via Chamonix. Saw Howard at Martigny. Had lunch at Sion Station. Went into the town, had all the shops were shut. Got the 3.30 train up to Hauderes. We stopped the "Les Hauderes" first class & good food, & very cheap. At the Sun in the first market it is convenient for getting luggage off. The other hotel is nearer of the village.

Aug. 17. We got off at 7.40 after sending our luggage round off; the old hotel which closes the station at once is carried away by landslides. We had some lunch & then kept to the big bank for about 1/4 mile. We had a good deal of rain & got to Arolla (the Cottage) at 10.15. We met Solly first thing. Mr. Wedgwood & his girl & a boy (Amyas Leigh's sister & Provost of the Lake Alpine Club) & Rutledge & his boy & relations were in the hotel.

Aug 18 We got up at 7, it turned to rain before we got off, it rained all day. We read & slept.

Aug 19 We got off at 8.20 & set off with 2 days food for the Bertol. We had a hard hill the "Lacets" We got to the Pl. Bertol at 11 & had food & left at 12. The rock to the hut had been changed & now there is a big "bit" fixed in the glacier below the hut. We got to the hut at 2.30 & had food. It came from Zermatt & 16 from Arolla.

Aug 20. A bad night. It rained & snowed. We left at 10, we soon got below the snow & had a dry. We stopped for lunch at the last water on the path above the hut. A thunderstorm came on & we got in fairly wet.

Aug 21 A wet morning. As the clothes were not dry. I put on my breeches to dry them & got my luncheon very stiff. After lunch walked up towards Pigne d'Arly & had tea. I broke a tooth & arranged to go to Sion for dentist & telephone.

Aug 22. I got up at 4.30 & off at 5.20 & got to Hauderes at 7 early. I had a "Cafe Chaud" & got the 7.30 train. It was very cold till we got to Sion as we were in shade. I took my alarm watch to be mended as I had dropped it. Got the tooth crowned at a cost of 50 fr. had lunch at the station & caught the 1.10 train & got to Hauderes at 3. As it looked like rain & cold we stopped & got to Arolla at 5.20. & had a bath & slept before dinner.

Aug. 23. Sunday. Went to the R. Cath. Celebration & to Matins with Lutters & left & went to Evening.

Aug. 24. Went up the Pierre Glacier with Rutledge & his boy. A little snow. Saw some fine avalanches