

chimney of the south face route. It is mostly vertical fourth-class climbing with a few moderate class-5 moves. *Mount Conness*: In September of 1992, David Hardy and Paul Goldhammer climbed a fifth-class route on the west side of this peak. The route starts from the south side of the huge tower on the north ridge and traverses up and across the west face to the summit, always remaining below the crest of the north ridge. *Mount Darwin*: In 1982, Bruce Hendricks and Bruce Watts climbed the right rib on the north face. They followed the crest of the rib for six pitches to the summit plateau (II, 5.8.)

BART O'BRIEN

*Merriam Peak, North Face*. The left edge of the beautiful north pillar of Merriam Peak begins as a blocky, segmented arête that features two or three sharp spires in the lower third and culminates in a steep, smooth, rounded buttress. In July, Dave Harden and I worked through the blocky section and followed the upper face for nine pitches. We scrambled 50 feet above the talus on the extreme left edge of the north face. An aesthetic three-inch jam crack (5.8) led up 40 feet to easier climbing. The second pitch avoided the steep prow by following third-class rock to the left for 80 feet. We climbed back to the arête to the base of a wide crack. Pitch three ascended to the right of the wide jam crack to the top of the first spire. We made a short rappel to the gully to the left of the north face. We followed broken rock and 5.7 cracks for 100 feet to a 5.9 fist crack that led for 30 feet up into a chimney behind the most impressive spires. The next pitch was the crux. We climbed over blocks and then chimneyed up to where 5.9 moves took us onto the smooth upper headwall. A 120-foot classic hand- and finger-crack led to the second ledge at the base of a wide crack. We started up the crack but traversed right onto easy face climbing that led to a big ledge. The next pitch climbed 30 feet at 5.9 to a 5.10b horizontal traverse to the left. We rappelled 30 feet into the gully at the base of a spectacular crack. The last pitch was 160 feet of continuously difficult and varied climbing up to and around an imposing roof. The pitch ended abruptly on the same ledge that climaxes the Harrington-Clevenger route. Three traversing pitches led to the actual summit of Merriam Peak. This climb is technically more difficult and longer than the normal route. (IV, 5.10+.)

BART O'BRIEN

*Treasure Peak, The Pharaoh and The White Fang*. Treasure Peak is 6 miles north of Mount Abbott and is called by this name in R.J. Secor's guide. In July, Urmas Franosch and I did "Band of Gypies," a direct route on its unclimbed north face. Three full rope-lengths led up the steepest section of the surreally banded face onto the east ridge, one fourth-class pitch from the summit. The third pitch, the crux, was loose and continuous, with protection up to 4 inches required. (III, 5.10a.) The Pharaoh (9600+ feet) is 6 miles west of Miller Lake in Yosemite's Matterhorn Canyon. I spotted this formation on the Tuolumne