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Out And About With Tom Angus

I REPORTED in last week's "Advertiser" that, weather permitting, 40 pupils from Inverurie Academy, accompanied by 10 adults and led by Mr James McKay, a senior teacher at the Academy, and also the senior bailie of the well-known "Bailies of Bennachie," would attempt to make a moonlight ascent of Craigshannoch, Oxencraig and famous Mither Tap.

Mr McKay has just told me that all went well and the expedition was a great success, with 47 pupils, 12 Academy staff members and nine other adults taking part.

The climb was divided into two parties. Mr Algy Watson led from the north side and Mr McKay from the south.

Mr McKay said: "Everybody found it a great experience. There was more soft snow than I had anticipated, which made the ascent very arduous. But on the plateau the snow was firm and as we walked across the vast expanse of snow and ice, the moon would occasionally break through the cloud and highlight one of the peaks—a superb effect."

In spite of the large size of each party, there were no mishaps and all the pupils did extremely well.