

on the porous and somewhat crumbling rocks of the Upper Greensand I believe these singular gorges owe their origin. Possibly the waters permeating the rock formed subterranean galleries, which in time fell in, and were further enlarged by the stream incessantly cutting its way. On a very miniature scale, I have seen similar effects produced in the gutters by the roadside after a very violent rain.

Whether or not this be the true explanation of the singular formation of these rocks I leave it to others to determine; but, whether for science, scenery, or sport, I am certain none will regret a visit to these magnificent and unfrequented valleys that lie south of the Mont Perdu.

Within two days' march of the excellent hotel at Gavarnie, the charms of a savage life can be tempered at will by the amenities of civilisation; and, speaking from my own experience, I can say that it is here possible to realise the condition of the blest, as Virgil described it:

Nulli certa domus; lucis habitamus opacis;
Riparumque toros et prata recentia rivis
Incolimus. (*Æn.* vi. 673-75.)

IN MEMORIAM.

FENTON JOHN ANTHONY HORT, D.D.

By the death of Dr. Hort, on November 30 last, the fast-dwindling number of original members of this Club was further reduced. Born in 1828, he was educated at Rugby, and Trinity College, Cambridge. Like many of his contemporaries at that University he caught the enthusiasm of the new world which, with its possibilities (scientific and other), seemed to be opening amidst the snows of the Alps; and as readers of Mr. W. Longman's paper in Vol. VIII. of the Journal will remember, took an energetic part in the arrangements which preceded the establishment of the Alpine Club.

He was one of the party whose excursions on the western side of Mont Blanc are recorded by Mr. Vaughan Hawkins in the first series of 'Peaks, Passes, and Glaciers.' An early ascent of the Jungfrau from the Aeggischhorn, which he made in company with the late Bishop of Durham, is described by himself in the Visitors' Book of the Jungfrau Hotel. The return journey was delayed in consequence of Dr. Lightfoot becoming exhausted, and the future theologians spent the night on the moraine.

Dr. Hort soon gave up making long expeditions, but he was one of the first to recognise the value of the mountain houses, then very primitive, as health resorts. He occupied himself a good deal with botany, which was one of the many subjects in which he obtained distinction at Cambridge. The story of his later life is matter for other pages.

G. V. Y.