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KYNDWR CLUB NOTES.

ELDEN HOLE.—Compared with the operations already in part described as carried out in September, the descent made on Boxing Day, 1900, was a mere picnic, though Mr. Puttrell had the satisfaction of superintending while thirteen men were lowered into the Hole and returned without mishap. But the object of the September expedition was adventure, and the party got what they went for ; the next thing to do was to explore the Hole and cavern in a business-like manner. On Christmas Day, Messrs. R. McCrum and J. W. Puttrell, assisted by a labourer, stretched a one-inch manilla cable across the mouth of the chasm, fixing it by means of stout pegs firmly driven in, and two posts erected crosswise at the lower side. On the cable a trolley ran to and fro, which could be held stationary at any point by a line on the far side from the hauling party ; over the trolley went the main rope, 270 feet A.C., with a swing-chair attached. It was proposed to use horse-power for raising and lowering the men, but this method was afterwards given up as too hazardous.

On Boxing Day, nearly a score of members and friends arrived on the scene, the Sheffield contingent, through a miscalculation, being very late. Consequently it was past one o'clock before anybody could descend, and then, after the apparatus had been tested, Mr. E. A. Baker was let down first, and when he had signalled all safe, Messrs. F. Wightman (Secretary), J. Croft, and H. Arnold Bemrose followed, bringing electric lamps, a supply of candles and magnesium wire, the telephone, &c. To each person descending a life-line was attached, independently of the main rope ; but it failed to prevent occasional "twizzling," and one or two complained of dizziness ; 200 feet of "twizzling" is certainly not an agreeable recreation. Messrs. W. J. Topham, W. Smithard, H. Eggleston, F. Scorah, J. H. Winterbottom, W. Meakin, J. W. Puttrell,

G. Ashton and J. White now came down at rather long intervals, the unravelling of the ropes after each journey taking up a quite unexpected amount of time.

The bottom of the Hole and the inner cavern were carefully explored and measured, Mr. Bemrose, as an experienced geologist, rendering valuable aid in this part of the work ; and several photographs were taken, but were not very successful.

Before the last half-dozen members were able to return to the surface, darkness came on, and the difficulties caused by the twisting together of the ropes were rendered far more serious. When, at length, the ropes got entangled with the telephone wire and broke it, there seemed no alternative to abandoning the use of the life-line altogether, and so the rest of the explorers were drawn up without it. The President (the Rev. D. Macdonald) and Mr. McCrum superintended the operations above ground, working hard all day, and unfortunately, through lack of time, missing the chance of going down. Mr. B. Wightman worked the telephone at the top, and a number of local people gave useful aid in handling the apparatus.

The exploration of the so-called "Bottomless Pit" in the Speedwell Cavern is fixed, provisionally, for May.

LECTURE AT DERBY.—Mr. J. W. Puttrell gave an interesting lecture on "English Rock-Climbing, with especial reference to the Lake District," on Feb. 25th, 1901. He exhibited more than seventy limelight views, taken by Messrs. Abraham and others, to a large audience, which showed itself keenly appreciative.