IN MEMORIAM.

J. W. ROBINSON.

THE death of this well-known Cumberland man at the early age of fifty-four will be felt as a great loss to many of us.

It may be doubted whether any other man outside the Club had more or warmer friends within it. Though it fell to his lot only once to enjoy a season among the Alps, he had all the qualities which go to the making of a fine mountaineer—great strength and activity, vast endurance, cool judgment, keenness of observation, and an unusually retentive memory. It was his unrivalled knowledge of his native hills and rocks, and his constant readiness to place his knowledge and his time at the service of every genuine inquirer, that brought him into contact with so many of our members, of whom literally hundreds must have at one time or another learned what a delight it was to have a day's climbing with him.

Brilliant powers as a rock-climber, great natural intelligence, and a keen sense of humour, combined with a singularly gentle and loveable disposition to make him the most delightful of companions.

W. P. H.-S.

THE MOUNTAINS OF DANTE.—II.

BY DOUGLAS W. FRESHFIELD.

I CONTRIBUTED to the tenth volume (pp. 400–5) of this 'Journal' a short article with the above title. It attracted at the time some attention in Italy, and led in that country to a further and more detailed discussion of Dante's references to mountains and mountain scenery.

I now return to the subject because I believe myself to be in a position to solve a particular problem which then baffled me and has, so far as I know, baffled most commentators since.

In the 'Inferno,' canto xxxii. line 29, Dante, in order to impress on his readers the thickness of the ice in the innermost circle of Hell, says that if 'Pietrapana' or 'Tabernicch' were dropped on it it would not even crack:

> che se Tabernicch
> Vi fosse su caduto, o Pietrapana,
> Non avria pur dall' orlo fatto cricch.

'Pietrapana' is, of course, easily recognisable as the Pania della Croce, the Carrara peak visible from Florence. But 'Tabernicch' has hitherto proved a puzzle. I will first quote what I wrote twenty-five years ago about its attempted identifications.*

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* *Alpine Journal*, vol. x. p. 402, *n.*

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