

a row from the S.W. corner of Vatnajökull for a distance of about 30 km. These were caused by the eruption of 1783, the one which holds the record of being the greatest and the most destructive outbreak ever witnessed in Iceland.

CAVES

Surtshellir and *Viðgelmir*. These two caves lie some 8 km. apart (see p. 174) and are very similar in size. Each being more than 1500 m. long, over 10 m. high and some 12 m. wide on an average. As to the formation of stalactites and stalagmites, pillars of ice etc. *Viðgelmir* will probably be found the most interesting of the two.

HOT SPRINGS

The *hot springs* in Iceland, or fountains, both of boiling and warm water, are quite innumerable and are found at every possible altitude up to 1500 metres above sea level, among the icefields and down on the coast, where some of them are visible only at low-tide. They are, practically speaking, spread all over the island; at some places there may be seen a solitary spring issuing its vapours, but at other places a whole group, consisting of no less than fifty.

At some of the hot springs there are found fairly extensive sulphur deposits, but all such places are situated at a great distance from any good harbour.

Neither *Great Geysir* nor *Strokkur* have been active for several years now, but a small geysir called *Smíður*, lying close by, can almost invariably be made active if baited with soap, each spout reaching the height of 6 to 8 m. *Blesi* is the name of one of the springs in the Great Geysir group. It is a big twin pool almost boiling and always brimful of transparent blue water of great depth.

The hot springs at *Reykir*, *Ölfus*, are very varied as to form, colour and size, and present quite an interesting sight. Of the geysirs there, the one called *Grýla* is the most powerful, and spouts occasionally to the height of several metres.

RIVERS

Several of the Iceland rivers rank among the very best in Europe for salmon fishing. Some of them are also fairly good for char and trout fishing, but many of the lakes are particularly good for these last two. (See Angling pp. 174—176).

According to the latest calculations the total amount of water power