

rocks, or large abysses, by the action of the fire; for to make a cavern form a precipice or abyss, we need only suppose the tops of adjacent rocks had fallen together and formed an arch, which must often happen when their bottoms are shaken and dislodged by time or earthquakes. Caverns may be produced by the same causes which produce holes, the shaking and sinking of the earth, and which causes are the explosion of volcanos, the action of subterraneous vapours and earthquakes; for they occasion caverns, holes, and hollows of every kind by their shocks and commotion.

St. Patrick's cavern in Ireland is not so considerable as it is famous; it is the same with the Dog's Grotto in Italy; and that which throws out fire, in the mountain of Beniguaeval in the kingdom of Fez. In the county of Derby, in England, there is a very considerable cavern, much larger than the famous cavern of Beauman, near the Black Forest, in Brunswick. I have been informed by a person as respectable for his merit as his name, Lord Morton, that this large cavern, called the Devil's Hole, at first presents a very considerable opening, larger than any church door; that through this opening a rivulet flows; that