

in Franconia : the most remarkable is that of Gaylenreuth, which lies to the north-west of the village, on the left bank of the river Wiesent. The entrance, which is about seven feet high, is in the face of a perpendicular rock, and leads to a series of chambers from fifteen to twenty feet high, and several hundred feet in extent, terminated by a deep chasm, which, however, has not escaped the ravages of visitors. This cavern is perfectly dark, and the icicles, or pillars of stalactite, reflected by the torches which it is necessary to use, present a highly picturesque and striking effect. The floor is literally paved with bones and fossil teeth; and the pillars and corbels of stalactite also contain osseous remains. Loose animal earth abounding in bones, forms in some parts a layer ten feet in thickness. A graphic description of this cave was published by M. Esper, more than sixty years ago; at that period, some of the innermost recesses contained waggon loads of bones and teeth; some imbedded in the rock, and others in the loose earth. The bones in general are scattered and broken, but not rolled; they are lighter and less solid than recent bones, and are often incrustated with stalactite. Through the kindness of Lord Cole, and Sir Philip de M. Grey Egerton, I am able to illustrate these remarks by an extensive suite of osseous remains, exhumed from the deepest recess in the cavern, and collected a short time since by these distinguished geologists. But the most interesting