

would become blended with the mud, gravel, and débris of the animals already entombed; and a stalagmitical paste would in some places be formed by the infiltration of water, as at Bize, and would thus cement the whole into solid aggregates. We should therefore expect to find masses of stone, containing bones of the bear, and other extinct species, associated with human bones, fragments of pottery, terrestrial shells, and bones of animals of modern times. Such are the contents of numerous caves, and the above explanation points out the mode in which such accumulations have taken place.*

34. OSSEOUS BRECCIA, OR BONE CONGLOMERATE.—The facts we have next to examine are even more extraordinary than those which have already been described; for the osseous remains which now claim our attention are not imbedded in gravel or clay, or collected together in caves, but are found in fissures of limestone, extending over an area of many hundred leagues, and occurring in rocks and islands, very remote from each other. The limestone presents but little variety, the substance in which the bones are enveloped is everywhere the same, and the fossil remains belong, with but few local exceptions, to similar species of animals. The rocks are split in every direction, and the fissures filled with what geologists term an osseous or bone-breccia; that is, bones, and

* Memoir by M. Desnoyer.