Victoria Cave.

doubtless the list will be largely increased. I will arrange those I have to notice geographically, beginning with the north of England, and I may mention that England is peculiarly fortunate in the possession of so many dens and caverns, most of which have been excavated by natural processes in Carboniferous Limestone, which forms such large tracts of country both in England and Wales. The remainder are chiefly in the Devonian Limestone of Devonshire, while a few are in Oolitic or other limestone strata. In connection with this subject, it is worthy of remark, that the poverty of Scotland in the fossilised bones of Elephants, Hippopotami, Rhinoceroses, Lions, and perhaps of man or his works, is, doubtless, chiefly due to the general absence in that corntry of large masses of Carboniferous Limestone, while Ireland, more than half the surface of which is made of Carboniferous Limestone, will probably yield a rich crop of such organic remains, when leisure permits people to search for them.

The Victoria Cave, near Settle in Yorkshire, is entered at the base of a Scar in the Carboniferous Limestone, at a height of about 1,450 feet above the Since 1870, it has been carefully excavated sea. under a trustworthy committee, and reports have been issued on the subject by Professor Boyd Dawkins, and since 1873 by Mr. R. H. Tiddeman of the Geological The mouth of the cave was at first much Survey. obscured by talus, fallen from the cliff or Scar, and when this was removed, a layer was found inside the cavern, partly composed of charcoal and burnt bones. It was on this layer that the original discoverer of the cavern, Mr. Jackson of Settle, found, in 1838, coins, iron spear-heads, brooches, and many other articles, all pointing to the fact that the cave had been