

the water is conducted to this depth either by percolation through pores and crevices, or by small subterraneous channels in these strata, from more elevated distant regions, whence it *descends*, until its progress is arrested by the Fault. (See Pl. 67. Fig. 2, d, and Pl. 69. Fig. 2, H. L.)

Besides the advantages that arise to the whole of the Animal Creation, from these dispositions in the structure of the Earth, whereby *natural* supplies of water are multiplied almost to infinity over its surface, a further result, of vast and peculiar importance to Man, consists in the facilities which are afforded him of procuring *artificial* wells, throughout those parts of the world which are best adapted for human habitation.

The Causes of the rise of water in ordinary artificial wells, are the same that regulate its discharge from the natural apertures which give origin to springs; and as both these effects will be most intelligibly exemplified, by a consideration of the causes of the remarkable ascent of water to the surface, and often above the surface, in those peculiar perforations which are called Artesian Wells, our attention may here be profitably directed to their history.

Artesian Wells.

The name of Artesian Wells is applied to perpetually flowing artificial fountains, obtained by boring a small hole, through strata that are des-