

plates), and in a memoir inserted among those of the *Berlin Society of Naturalists*, vol. ix. 1784, p. 56. Another description was afterwards given, under the title of *Objets dignes de remarque des environs de Muggendorf*, by J. C. Rosenmüller, folio, with coloured views, Berlin, 1804. And more lately, M. Goldfuss, at present Professor of Natural History at Bonn, and Secretary of the *Academia Naturæ Curiosorum*, has made them the subject of a particular work printed in 1810 in German, under the title of *Environs of Muggendorf*, in which he describes them with the greatest care, as well as the surrounding country, of which he gives a very correct topographical chart. A great part of these caves is situated in a small bailiwick, named *Streitberg*, which was formerly a dependence upon the country of *Bayreuth*, but was inclosed in that of *Bamberg*, and now forms part of the kingdom of Bavaria. The greatest number occur in a small peninsula, formed by the river of *Wiesent*, which falls into the *Pegnetz*, and belongs to the basin of the *Main*.

However, the chief of all these astonishing caves, those of *Gaylenreuth*, are beyond the limits of this peninsula, being on the left bank of the *Wiesent*, to the north-west of the village from which it derives its name. The entrance is perforated in a vertical rock; it is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, and faces the east. The first cave turns to the right, and is upwards of 80 feet long. The unequal heights of the vault divide it into four parts; the first three are from 15 to 20 feet high, the fourth is only 4 or 5. At the bottom of this latter, on the level of the floor, there is a hole 2 feet high, which affords a passage to the second cave: it has first a direction to the south, over a length of 60 feet by