

CHAPTER X.

CAVERN DEPOSITS, AND PLACE OF SEPULTURE OF THE POST-PLIOCENE PERIOD.

FLINT IMPLEMENTS IN CAVE CONTAINING HYÆNA AND OTHER EXTINCT MAMMALIA IN SOMERSETSHIRE—CAVES OF THE GOWER PENINSULA IN SOUTH WALES—RHINOCEROS HEMITÆCHUS—OSSIFEROUS CAVES NEAR PALERMO—SICILY ONCE PART OF AFRICA—RISE OF BED OF THE MEDITERRANEAN TO THE HEIGHT OF THREE HUNDRED FEET IN THE HUMAN PERIOD IN SARDINIA—BURIAL-PLACE OF POST-PLIOCENE DATE OF AURIGNAC IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE—RHINOCEROS TICHORHINUS EATEN BY MAN—M. LARTET ON EXTINCT MAMMALIA AND WORKS OF ART FOUND IN THE AURIGNAC CAVE—RELATIVE ANTIQUITY OF THE SAME CONSIDERED.

Works of Art associated with extinct Mammalia in a Cavern in Somersetshire.

THE only British cave from which implements resembling those of Amiens have been obtained, since the attention of geologists has been awakened to the importance of minutely observing the position of such relics relatively to the associated fossil mammalia, is that recently opened near Wells in Somersetshire. It occurs near the cave of Wokey Hole, from the mouth of which the river Axe issues on the southern flanks of the Mendips. No one had suspected that on the left side of the ravine, through which the river flows after escaping from its subterranean channel, there were other caves and fissures concealed beneath the green sward of the steep sloping bank. About ten years ago, a canal was made, several hundred yards in length, for the purpose of leading the waters of the Axe to a paper-mill, now occupying the middle of the ravine. In carrying out this work, about twelve feet of the left bank was cut away, and a cavernous