

3. *R. etruscus* Falconer, a comparatively slight and slender form, also with an incomplete bony septum,* occurs deep in the Val d'Arno deposits, and in the 'Forest bed,' and superimposed blue clays, with lignite, of the Norfolk coast, but nowhere as yet found in the ossiferous caves in Britain.

Dr. Falconer announced in 1860 his opinion that the filling up of the Gower caves in South Wales took place after the deposition of the marine boulder clay,† an opinion in harmony with what we have since learnt from the section of the gravels near Bedford, given above at p. 155, where a fauna corresponding to that of the Welsh caves characterises the ancient alluvium, and is shown to be clearly post-glacial, in the sense of being posterior in date to the submergence of the midland counties beneath the waters of the glacial sea. In the same sense the late Edward Forbes declared, in 1846, his conviction that not only the *Cervus megaceros*, but also the mammoth and other extinct pachyderms and carnivora, had lived in Britain in post-glacial times.‡ The Gower caves in general have their floors strewn over with sand, containing marine shells, all of living species; and there are raised beaches on the adjoining coast, and other geological signs of great alteration in the relative level of land and sea, since that country was inhabited by the extinct mammalia, some of which, as we have seen, were certainly coeval with Man.

Ossiferous Caves in North of Sicily.

Geologists have long been familiar with the fact that on the northern coast of Sicily, between Termini on the east, and Trapani on the west, there are several caves containing the bones of extinct animals. These caves are situated in rocks of hippurite limestone, a member of the cretaceous series, and

* See Falconer, Quarterly Geological Journal, vol. xv. p. 602.

vol. xvi. p. 491, 1860.

† Geological Quarterly Journal,

‡ Memoirs of Geol. Survey, pp. 394-397.