

diminishes in elevation until it is not quite 7 feet. A narrow passage and several tiny ducts conduct to a third chamber, about 7 feet high and 33 feet broad. At the entrance of this grotto, a cavity of 16 to 20 feet, into which you descend by means of a ladder, opens upon a vault 16 feet in diameter by 33 feet in height. Adjoining this lofty dome-like recess lies a grotto, whose soil is strewn with the bones of the *Ursus spelæus*. A little lower the explorer passes through another corridor into a saloon about 44 feet long, terminating in a well fully 20 feet deep, by whose means he next arrives at a grotto about 45 feet in height. Two passages lead from hence

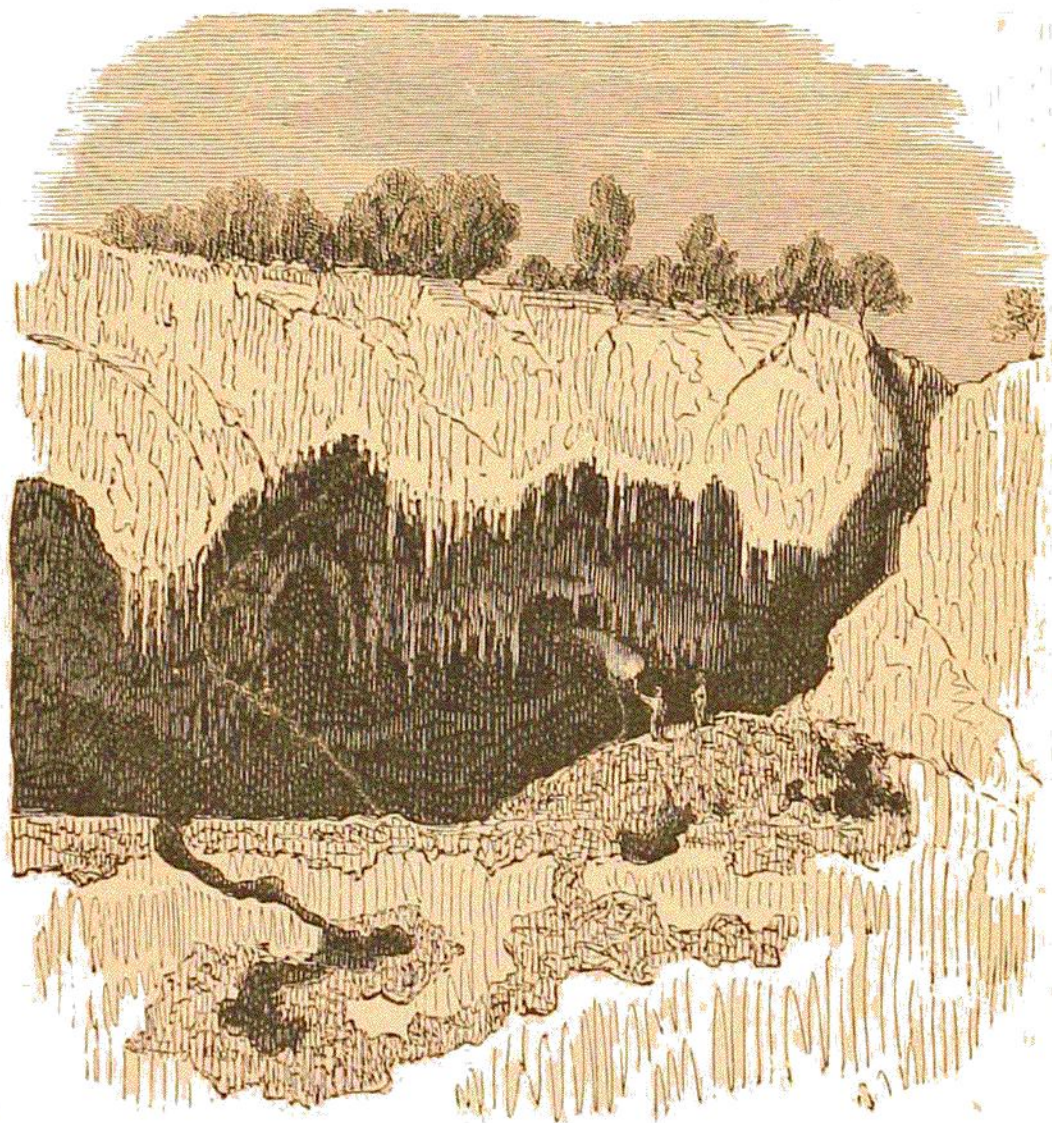


FIG. 106.—BAUMANN'S CAVERN.

into two tolerably spacious chambers. Next he is ushered into a grand hall, 85 feet broad by 13 feet high. A seventh and last chamber must be traversed to reach the end of this subterranean labyrinth.

Two other caverns of the same nature exist in the neighbourhood of Gailenreuth.

Baumann's cavern, in the Hartz, consists of five chambers situated on very different levels. From the first to the second is a descent of 33 feet. To reach the third, the tourist must be hauled up to a certain elevation; then he alternately rises and descends, until he comes to a gallery full of water, where the bones of bears, hyænas, and tigers are found in great quantities. The cavern derives its name