

in a broad and lofty gallery about a thousand yards in length, which, after the great American naturalist, has been named *Audubon's Hall*. It abuts on the *Rotunda*, a vast circular saloon, whence numerous passages radiate. One of these leads to a square apartment, which is fashioned like a colossal nave, and decorated with immense stalactites: it is called *the Church*. Here the stalactitic concretions assume the shape of aisles and stalls, and even of a kind of pulpit, in which more than one Protestant clergyman has preached the Word of God.



FIG. 160.--THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.

Emerging from this magnificent natural temple, we arrive, through a series of corridors, at the *Ghost's Chamber*, where an extraordinary quantity of Indian mummies was formerly discovered. This vast cemetery of an unfortunate race has been converted into a *restaurant*; where the wives of the guides supply various refreshments, and even the daily newspapers. [As the uniform

temperature and nitrous atmosphere of the cavern were considered beneficial in cases of disease of the lungs, a hotel was formerly built here for the accommodation of asthmatic and consumptive patients; but it has been discontinued.]

Descending a succession of ladders, and crossing an old wooden bridge, whose appearance of antiquity is not very reassuring, we reach a narrow pathway, where the roof is so low that it is impossible to walk upright; this passage has been very expressively named *Humility Road*. It opens on the *Devil's Chair*, a kind of balcony