

tenanted during, or not long after, the Roman occupation of Britain. All this comes easily within the range of what may be called modern history.

Beneath this stratum there lies partly at the entrance of the cavern an accumulation of angular stones, about six feet thick, at the base of which, resting on grey clay, there occurred charcoal, a bone bead, flint flakes, and broken bones of the Brown Bear, Stag, Horse, and *Bos longifrons* (Celtic shorthorn). Professor Dawkins guardedly speculates on the date of this human occupation, as having been 'about 4,000 or 5,000 years ago,'<sup>1</sup> a moderate computation of a portion of backward time that few will grudge, and which to my mind seems short compared with the earlier history of man and other mammalia in relation to this cavern.

Beneath these shingly deposits at the entrance of the cave, and 'at the base of all the talus'<sup>2</sup> there was found a genuine glacial Boulder-clay, charged with ice-scratched stones and boulders, consisting of upper Carboniferous black limestone derived from the north, conglomerates from the base of the Carboniferous Limestone also from the north, while other boulders consisted of Carboniferous sandstones, and 'a very large proportion of Silurian rocks,' the nearest large areas of which are in Cumbria and the south of Scotland. The extent of these Boulder-clays has been proved over an area of 1,200 square feet, and this lies upon the edges of deposits of grey clay, and a lower reddish cave-earth, which is a kind of loam peculiar to many bone-caves. The local absence of Boulder-clay on the ground at the top of the cliff, shows that the material could not have fallen from above before the accumulation of the

<sup>1</sup> 'Cave Hunting,' p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> R. H. Tiddeman, Victoria Cave Exploration Committee, 1875.