

*Pachydermata.*—The elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and horse.

*Rodentia or Gnawers.*—The hare, rabbit, rat, water-rat, and mouse.

*Ruminant Animals.*—The ox and fragments and bones of three species of deer.

*Birds.*—The raven, pigeon, lark, snipe, and a small species of duck.

From the great number of bones of the hyena found in this cave, Professor Buckland infers that it had long been the habitation of these animals. It is their ascertained habit, partly to devour the bones of their prey; they also devour the dead bodies of their own species; like wolves they are gregarious, and hunt in packs. From the habits of the hyena, he explains the occurrence of the remains of large herbivorous quadrupeds, like the elephant, in so low a cave as that of Kirkdale; they have been dragged into it by these voracious animals. Several English caverns have since been explored. In some of them there are bones both of herbivorous and carnivorous animals similar to those in the Kirkdale Cove. These caves are described in Professor Buckland's valuable work, entitled *Reliquiæ Diluvianæ*.

That the caverns in which the bones of carnivorous animals are found in such prodigious quantities, were the retreats of some of these animals, cannot be doubted. Many circumstances, described in the account of the Kirkdale Cave, can be explained only by admitting it. There are, however, other circumstances particularly in the caves of Germany, which would imply, that part of the bones belong to animals that had fallen through fissures, which formerly opened into these caverns, or that the bones themselves had been carried by currents of water, through subterranean passages into these caverns, as before explained in the present chapter. In the cave at Gaylenreuth there are rounded fragments of limestone, intermixed with the bones; and the entrance of some of the caverns *is much too small* to have admitted the animals whose bones are found in them. I think it is also probable that a violent convulsion of nature, as a rising deluge and the fierce war of elements without, might have driven, under the strong impulse of alarm, numerous animals of different species into the same caverns, where they devoured each other, and their bones have been intermixed with those of the former inhabitants. The entrances of many of the caverns, and the caverns themselves, were doubtless formerly more lofty than at present; they have been gradually lowered by the subsidence of the upper strata. Indeed, it is admitted that the caverns and grottos in the neighbourhood of Adelsberg, have occasioned numerous depressions of the surface. Such an effect must generally take place, in a greater or less degree, with the strata over caverns.