

tunnels and chambers may be dissolved out of the solid rock (Fig. 111). Such has been the origin of the Peak caverns of Derbyshire, the intricate grottoes of Antiparos and Adelsberg, and the vast labyrinths of the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky.⁹⁹ In the course of time, the underground rivers open out new courses, and leave their old ones dry, as the Poik has done at Adelsberg. By the falling in of the roofs of caverns, a communication is established with the surface, and land-shells and land-animals fall into the holes, or the caverns are used as dens by beasts of prey, so that the remains of terrestrial animals are preserved under

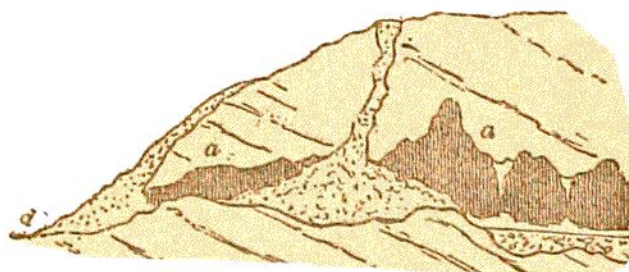


Fig. 110.—Section of a Limestone Cavern with fallen-in roof and concealed entrance (B.).

the stalagmite. Not infrequently caverns, once open and freely used as haunts of carnivora, have had their entrances closed by the fall of débris, as at *d* in Fig. 110, where also the partial filling-up of a cavern (*a a*) from the same cause is seen. Where the collapse of a cavern roof takes place below a water-course, the stream is engulfed. In this way, brooks and rivers suddenly disappear from the surface, and after a long subterranean course, issue again in a totally different surface-area of river-drainage from that in which they took their rise, and sometimes with volume enough to be navi-

⁹⁹ For accounts of the remarkable honeycombed region of Carniola, etc., see Mojsisovics, "Geologie von Bosnien-Hercegovina," pp. 44-60; Zeitsch. Deutsch. Alpenvereins, 1880. E. Tietze, Jahrb. Geol. Reichsanst. xxx., 1880, p. 729, and papers cited by him. Dr. J. H. Kloos and Dr. Max Müller, description and photographs of the Hermann's Cave of Rübeland in Brunswick (Weimar, 1889).