

beneath which this chamber communicates with the one entered by the antero-lateral opening from the *grand chamber*, and the light reflected from a lamp through the opening below this arch illuminates the entire ceiling of the adjoining chamber, and presents a rich appearance as seen through the opening above the arch.

To the right of the oblique floor of the antero-lateral cavity is a horseshoe-shaped opening, scalloped, about five feet in diameter, and considerably obscured by the over-hanging rock. From the body of the cave, the passage leading from this opening takes a direction at an angle of about 25° to the right. Its entire length is about 270 feet, height between four and five feet, and width the same. The floor is rough, and covered with small fragments of rock of various sizes, and from the ceiling hang many small stalactites.

At the inner terminus of this passage is an opening more or less circular, about twenty feet in diameter, and the rock over it is concave, and fully fifteen feet in height. Stones thrown into this well or cavity give rise to a loud rumbling noise. Its depth is thirty-seven feet, and the bottom measures nine feet by thirty feet, on either side of which are two openings, one five feet by twelve feet, twenty-two feet in depth, the other two feet by three feet, and forty-five feet in depth.

The floors of these lower cavities are covered with fine sand, and on every side are to be seen beautiful stalactites. On the right and left of the main passages of this well are to be observed several smaller passages, which, from their narrowness, are entered with difficulty. The entire cavern presents a water-worn appearance, more or less smooth on the surface, of a light gray color, and considerably excavated at intervals. Here and there, in each chamber, particularly from the ceilings, are to be seen rough projecting portions of rock of various shapes, and composed chiefly of quartz, pyroxene, serpentine, iron pyrites, and various mineral ingredients peculiar to the crystalline limestones of this ancient formation. In many parts of the cave the walls, particularly those to the right of each chamber entered, were covered with moderately uniform sheets of carbonate of lime.

The cavern is entered by descending on talus or broken rock; this is succeeded by a floor, partly flat, smooth, and presenting also a water-worn appearance. Generally speaking, the floor is uneven and strewed with fragments of rock of various sizes, more or less mixed up with broken stalactites and shelved portions of carbonate of lime. The entire cave, excepting the entrance, is perfectly devoid of light; the atmosphere moist, but exceedingly pure, even to the extent of our explorations, and a uniform temperature of about 45° Fahrenheit. The only organic remains so far discovered were those of the *Vulpes Vulgaris* (or common Fox), *Castor Fiber* (or Beaver), *Lutra Vulgaris* (or Otter), and a few drift shells.

From the purity of atmosphere in the entire cave, the opinion formed from that fact is that any accumulating carbonic acid is absorbed by water in some part of the unexplored portion of the cave, and it is not unlikely that parts already visited are only an entrance to vast labyrinths yet to be explored.