

## II.

NOTICE OF AN ARTIFICIAL CAVE IN THE PARISH OF ALVEY, INVERNESS-SHIRE. BY SIR DAVID BREWSTER, K.H., F.R.S., PRINCIPAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH. (PLATE III.)

This cave is situated on the brow of a rising ground in the village of Raits, on the estate of Belleville. It is about two miles from Kingussie, and about half-a-mile to the north of the great road from Perth to Inverness. In 1835, when it was first pointed out to me, it was filled with stones and rubbish taken from the neighbouring grounds. Upon removing the rubbish, I was surprised to find a long subterraneous building with its sides faced with stones, and roofed in by gradually contracting the side walls and joining them with very large flattish stones.

The form of the cave was that of a horse-shoe. Its convex side was turned to the south, and the entrance to it (see Plate III. fig. 1, CD) was at the middle of this side by means of two stone steps, and a passage of some length, as shown in fig. 2, at DC. The part of the cave to the left hand of AB, namely, ABC, was a separate apartment with a door at AB, as shown in fig. 4. A lock of an unusual form, almost destroyed by rust, was found among the rubbish. The formation of the roof by the gradual contraction of the side walls is shown in fig. 3, at EF.

There is no tradition among the people respecting the history of this cave, and, so far as I know, it had not been previously noticed.

ALLERLY, MELROSE, Feb. 7, 1863.

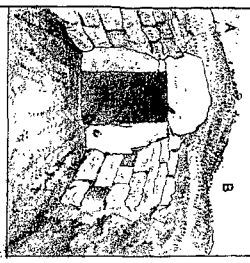


FIG. 4.

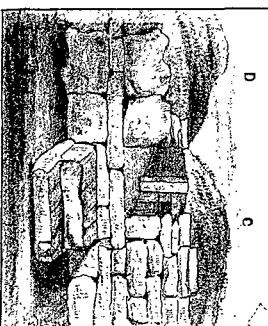


FIG. 2.

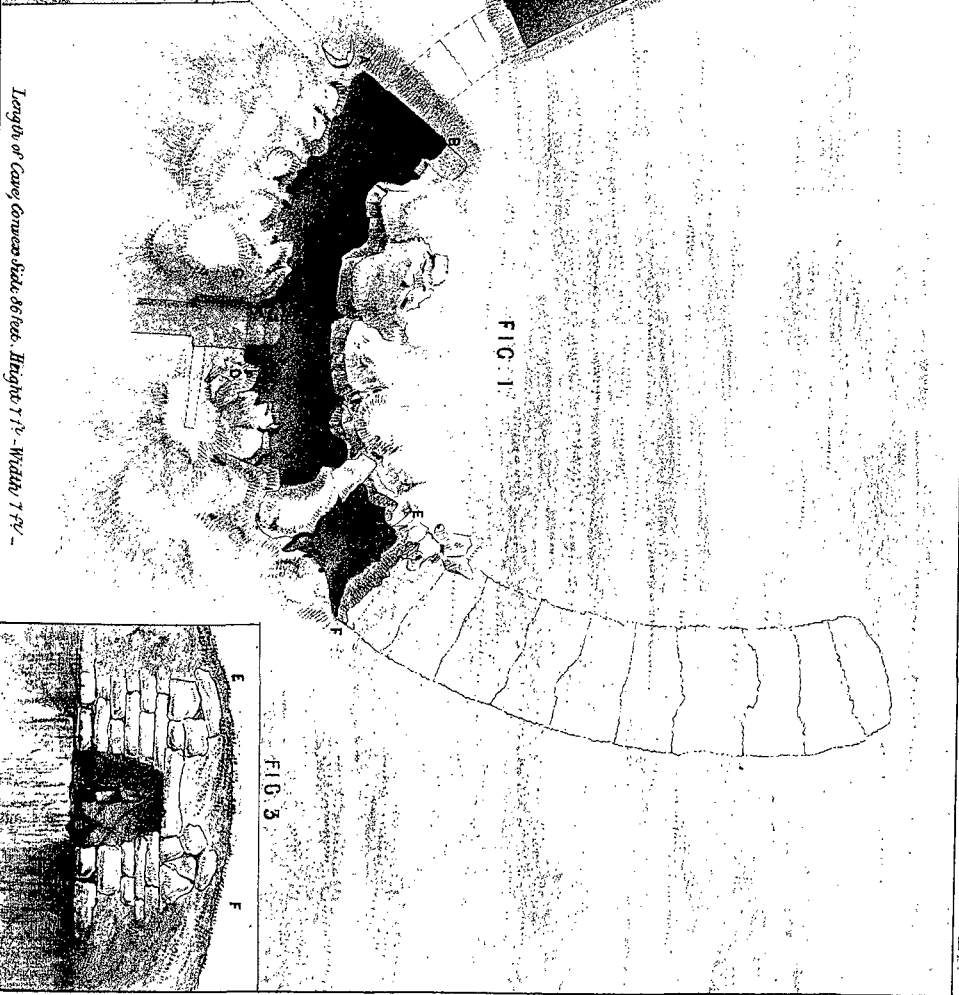


FIG. 1.

*Length of Cave, measured from the top of the wall to the top of the wall.*

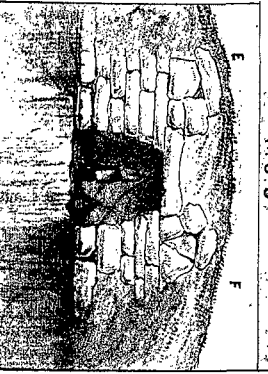


FIG. 3.

UNDERGROUND BUILDING DISCOVERED AT BELLEVILLE  
PARISH OF ALVEY, INVERNESS-SHIRE

W. & A. K. Edinburgh, 1887.