

A Typical California Quartz Mill.

The accompanying illustration is that of the Washington mill at Bath, a small village near Forest Hill, in Placer county, Cal. The mill is set into the hill on rock terraces, the ore passing through every process in milling by gravity. Bath is the site of the portal of the Paragon channel tunnel. This tunnel runs several miles into the mountain, where it connects with the workings of the Dardanelles mine on the same channel. The Washington vein lies at contact of serpentine and diorite, and was undoubtedly the source of a portion of the gold found in the Paragon-Dardanelles channels. Boulders of quartz from the vein are found in the channel, which are gold bearing. The mill is located on a steep mountain side, several hundred feet below the top of the Forest Hill divide, and a greater distance above the canyon of the American river which drains the immediate region. There are numerous quartz veins passing under the Forest Hill divide, but only a few of them have been developed to any extent, and still fewer have been equipped with mills, although some of these veins form promising prospects. This is probably due to the fact that drift mining is chiefly carried on in that vicinity and that these mines, which are among the most extensively operated of this class of mines in the world, locally form a more attractive investment.



The Washington Mining Company's Mill, Bath, Placer County, Cal.