

Prehistoric Implements, Bath

In prosecuting the work of gravel mining in this State several curious things have been found. The bones of mammoths and animals of past ages, tools and implements of nations which now have no place in the world, etc., have been found. At the last meeting of the California Academy of Sciences a stone cylindrical pestle was presented by Thos. N. Hosmer, of Bath, Placer Co. This cylindrical granite pestle is two and one-eighth inches in diameter and four and five-eighths inches long. It was found in one of Mr. Hosmer's claims in Volcano canyon. He was not actually present when it was found, but there is no doubt of its authenticity. Volcano Canyon had been worked and reworked for the last 30 or more years. The position where the pestle was found was in a deep place or gouge-hole, deeper than the surrounding bed-rock. The top earth and gravel had been long since worked off. This hole was filled with hard cement, gravel and boulders; the bed-rock had only been reached in one place, as the gravel prospected poorly, and it was abandoned until they took: hold of it this season and worked the hole out from end to end.

The pestle was found near the bed-rock imbedded in the hard cement gravel and the pick shows its mark. Although the implement is of granite, Mr. Hosmer says there is no granite in that section of country where it was found. Professor Davidson, who has given some attention to the finds of implements in this State, says if this stone really was used as a pestle, as appears likely, it is different from any of the many hundreds he has seen, in its purely cylindrical form, length and thickness.

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