

Relics of the Stone Age, found in California, BY C. D. TOY.

Few countries equal California in the number of fossil remains disclosed of the elephant, the rhinoceros, the mammoth, and the mastodon, besides numerous other animals of the Pliocene age, accompanied with the bones and skulls of the ancient human inhabitants who peopled this country thousands of years ago. These remains embracing a variety of stone relics, have been, within the past few years, and are now being exhumed in the mining districts, with their contemporaries of the animal creation, by the miner in his search for golden treasure; so that science is being greatly enriched by the development of a geological history of the human race, at the same time that the miner is being rewarded by the harvest of his labors. I present you with the following list of localities in which, to my knowledge, these fossils have been found:

.PLACER COUNTY.

About five miles northeast of Lincoln, stone relics, at various depths in the gravel deposits.

At Butcher's Ranch, below Todd's Valley, very large elephants' teeth and bones, besides smaller animals, in auriferous clay gravel, from 10 to 40 feet deep.

At Forest Hill, a short distance below the town, in a southerly direction.

At Byrd's Valley, in the auriferous gravel deposits, from 10 to 20 feet deep.

EL DORADO COUNTY.

Stone relics near Georgetown, and at Spanish Flat, and vicinity; in the latter locality there have been found, besides stone mortars and pestles, large stone platters and oval stones, with grooves around them, having the appearance of being used as Avar clubs. Some other Implements, probably used as handles for a bow, hollow on one side to tilt the weapon, and convex on the other, to give the hand a better grasp, large spear-heads, made of obsidian, etc., are also found.

At a mining camp, known as Soapweed, similar stone relics are found in the auriferous gravel, from 10 to 20 feet deep. All the stone mortars are made of the very hard granite which is found in this State. At Placerville, in auriferous gravel from 10 to 30 feet deep; at Shingle Springs, and three miles northeast.

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