

as *Mylodon*. However, he freely admitted that there was abundant room for honest difference of opinion.

It appears that the Duke of Argyll (G. D. Campbell) had seen neither H. W. Harkness's paper (Aug. 7) nor that of Joseph Le Conte, published (Aug. 27, 1882) a few days before that of Gibbes (Sept. 4). Both were issued as separates of the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences. In this paper Le Conte described the locality, its geology, the fossil tracks and such anatomical remains as he saw. In his description he refers to diagrams and figures published in Gibbes's paper. The prison yard exposed an area about 100 yards square and this was found to be literally covered with tracks of birds and mammals. They appeared to belong to elephants, a deer, a bird supposed to be a great blue heron or more probably the whooping crane, *Grus* (now *Megalornis*) *americanus*, and to large creatures believed by many to have been human beings. Le Conte showed that what he called the straddle, that is, the distance of the tracks of the right limbs from the left, was too great, about 19 inches, for human creatures, and the mylodon came to his mind. It appears that a good many fragments of elephant teeth had been picked up. Le Conte thought that these were all thin-plated teeth and belonged to *Elephas primigenius* (*E. boreus*). However, he wrote that he had seen a portion of a lower jaw containing a nearly perfect molar and this he said was probably *E. americanus*, a term then applied to *E. columbi*. This fragment of lower jaw and tooth was probably the one described and figured by Gibbes in a paper published (Proceedings, etc.) October 2, 1882, with a plate. An examination of this plate shows that the animal was *E. columbi*. The thin-plated teeth were then probably *E. boreus*. The teeth of horses were more numerous and better preserved. Some of these, according to Le Conte, belonged undoubtedly to *Equus occidentalis*, others belonged possibly to *E. pacificus*.

Le Conte was uncertain whether the deposit and its fossils belonged to the upper Pliocene or to the Quaternary. On his page 5 he concluded that the evidence, though by no means conclusive, was decidedly in favor of the Quaternary; but (his p. 10) on receiving from Cope and Marsh information that the fossils belonged in the Equus beds he wrote that these beds were probably uppermost Pliocene.

In 1882 (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., Aug. 7), Dr. H. W. Harkness published a paper in which he described the situation of the deposits and discussed the tracks. With his paper he issued a plate showing a track of the natural size. This paper purported to be published by the California Academy of Sciences; but it, as in the case of other papers of about that era, was issued only in the form of a separate.

In 1883, Professor O. C. Marsh published a paper on these footprints (Amer. Jour. Sci., ser. 3, vol. xxvi, pp. 139-140, with figs.). He suggested that they had been made by the sloth *Mylodon*. His figure is a reduction of that of Harkness. In 1884 (Science, ser. 1, vol. iv, pp. 273-276, with 4 figs.), W. P. Blake discussed the footprints of this locality. He concluded that the tracks represented at least 10 different animals, as follows: *Elephas*, elk or American reindeer, buffalo, horse, wolf, tiger, peccary, *Mylodon* (the so-called *Homo nevadensis*), birds. He believed that the tracks supposed to be those