

AN INFANT'S BURIAL CASE.

IN his recent trip, Capt. W. P. Hall made a find which is now on the shelves of the Academy of Science. It is a burial case, and was in a mound on O. J. Smith's land, at Hale's Point, Tenn. It was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the surface, the mound having been somewhat worn down by cultivation. It is a coarse pottery, made of clay, mixed with pounded shells, and pretty well burned. It is of rude, irregular form, made in two parts. The lower, or case proper, is twelve inches long, seven inches wide, and five inches deep, inside measure, the upper part being slightly bent inward all around. The upper part, or lid, is of singular form and dimensions, being very slightly larger, so as to close down over the other part about one and a half inches, and is somewhat more shallow. As the lid does not fit very perfectly, the joint around the edge has been plastered up with clay. When found, it contained the remains of a very small child reduced to dust, except that some of the bones of the skull, jaws and limbs retained their form, crumbling rapidly, however, upon removal and exposure to the air. There were also found two or three dozen small shell beads. Excepting the remains described, the case was entirely empty. The case weighs six and a quarter and the lid just six pounds. So far as known to members of the Academy, this is the first prehistoric earthenware burial case ever discovered in this country.—*Davenport Gazette, July 19th.*

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