THE MARBLE AND LIMESTONES.—The deposits of carbonate of lime in the form of marble and limestone which are so abundant in the central and western portions of the state differ widely in geological age and lithological character, and as a result have been applied to a variety of uses. Three types of rock are recognized: the highly crystalline white marble of the eastern division of the Piedmont Plateau; the fine-grained, compact and variegated varieties of the western or semi-crystalline division of the Piedmont Plateau; the blue fossiliferous limestones of the Appalachian Region; and the limestone conglomerate or "Potomac marble" of Triassic age in the Frederick valley.

The most valuable of these rocks are the highly crystalline marbles of Baltimore county, which have an extensive development in a series of narrow belts to the north and west of Baltimore city. The most important of these areas is that which extends northward from Lake Roland to Cockeysville and which is traversed by the Northern Central Railway. Marble is quarried at Texas and to the west of Cockeysville, near the northern portion of this belt, but is only employed for building purposes to any extent in the latter locality, where the well-known Beaver Dam marble quarries have been successfully operated for over 75 years. The rock in this locality is a finely saccharoidal dolomite of great compactness and durability, in which small scales of phlogopite occur in horizontal bands, representing the original bedding of the rock. Other materials, such as quartz, tremolite, etc., occasionally occur. Blocks of great size can be obtained at the quarries. The rock has been extensively used in public structures in Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia. Stone for the construction of the Washington monument was taken from this locality as early as 1814. It was also used in the construction of the Washington monument at Washington as well as in other buildings in that city. In Baltimore the City Hall, Maryland Club and several churches have been made from the same material. The Drexel and Penn Mutual Insurance buildings in Philadelphia and several buildings in New York are also constructed in whole, or in part, of the same material. The Texas quarries have also afforded materials for the Belt Line tunnel.