

Pentelicon. Upon the sea-face of this mountain are the ancient quarries, extending from the summit to the base near the sea. The upper range of quarries is very extensive, and of great interest, showing old methods of working; columns and architraves of immense size, finished and partly worked, lying in all directions. All these were wrought engaged to the solid rock, and when roughly shaped were wedged off and finished; numerous examples of work in progress are still *in situ*. . . .

'The Pyrgadi quarries no doubt belonged to, and were worked exclusively for the state, while the lower quarries near the sea, named Duka, would appear to have been those of a private individual, and worked for lesser objects, such as pedestals and decoration, the quality being exceptionally good. The light parts are of a bluish and aventurine translucency with ivory whites, and dark banded parts of all shades of green and laky greys, curled and bent about in all directions, producing, when cut into slabs and opened out, the most charming decorative panels or dados for wall-surfaces.

'Roughly speaking, probably 80 per cent. of the wall and pier marble incrustation of St. Mark's, Venice, is of this Euboean marble,<sup>1</sup> the whole of which has been obtained by the sawing up lengthwise into slabs old columns, opened out to produce continuous patterns, chevron or otherwise, as the veinings may happen to produce; this is readily proved by examining the open vertical joints which bevel inwards.

'The narrow outer slabs of the columns were afterwards used for strip linings of the semicircular alcoves; so nothing was wasted. These marbles have always

<sup>1</sup> Signor Boni says that most of the incrustation is of Proconnesian.