

A handsome red marble is also quarried at Taenaron and Kisternae, which furnished the blocks for the memorial erected in England to Lord Byron.

A marble closely resembling the Rosso Antico of the ancients is found near Oran in Algeria, and a so-called 'Rouge Antique' at Villerembert and Cierp, France, which is used to some extent. The Roman stone-cutter of to-day imitates Rosso Antico so well in coloured terracotta that it is often difficult at first sight to distinguish between the two.¹

There are two fine columns of this marble, which is of a rich monochrome red and fine texture, in the Rospigliosi Palace in Rome.

The Nero Antico or ancient black marble was also found on the promontory of Taenaron in Laconia, and is supposed by one authority² to have been the celebrated Lucullan marble. The same author says that quarries of a beautiful black stone have been found at Theux (near Spa), which have been abandoned for centuries, and were worked by the ancients; perhaps by one of the lieutenants of Mamurra, the prefect of works of Caesar in the Gauls. Important traces of Roman occupation, including a number of inscriptions, have been found at Jusleville ('Theux).

Nero Antico is of a deep black colour, and is fine-grained, taking a good polish. An urn of it may be seen on the high altar of the Church of S. Marcello, Rome.

Signor Boni also discovered a fine pavement of handsome black marble of the time of the Gracchi in the Roman Forum.

¹ Ravestein Catalogue.

² Ibid. See also page 70.