

## 70 WHAT ROME WAS BUILT WITH

and bemoaning the extravagance and luxury of that time, he says:—

‘Can we say that there is now any thing that we have reserved for the exclusive use of the gods? However, be it so, let us admit of this indulgence for the amusements of the public; but still, why did the laws maintain their silence when the largest of these columns, pillars of Lucullan marble, as much as eight-and-thirty feet in height, were erected in the atrium of Scaurus? A thing, too, that was not done privately or in secret; for the contractor for the public sewers compelled him to give security for the possible damage that might be done in the carriage of them to the Palatium.’<sup>1</sup>

Other authorities than Corsi believe the Lucullan marble to be the black marble or Nero Antico from Cape Matapan, and as a proof of this hypothesis state the fact that pieces of this black marble were picked up in the villa of Lucullus;<sup>2</sup> however, this hardly seems sufficient evidence.

Corsi enumerates 747 columns of Bigio Antico and 389 Bigio Morato! With the exception of the granite columns, this number exceeds that of any other stone in Rome.

There are twelve columns of Bigio Antico to be seen at St. Paul’s-outside-the-Walls.

### CHIOS

#### *Marmor Chium, Porta Santa*<sup>3</sup>

‘Variegated marbles, in my opinion, were first discovered in the quarries of Chios.’<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pliny, *op. cit.*, Book xxxvi, chap. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Ravestein Catalogue.

<sup>4</sup> Pliny, Book xxxvi, chap. 5.

<sup>3</sup> Holy door.