

marble, and it seems probable that for the most part they came from Greece, a number of the ancient quarry sites having been rediscovered and inscriptions found, proving that they had been worked by the Romans.

Hamilton describes the quarries of Teos in Ionia, where the so-called Bigio Brecciato¹ was found, as also in the neighbourhood of Ephesus and Eritrea.² From inscriptions copied by Hamilton and Le Bas from blocks in the quarries of Teos we learn that the marble was worked during the time of Marcus Aurelius, the blocks being dated A. D. 163-165-166. A light veined grey marble was quarried at Miletus; a block found in the Roman Emporium bearing the inscription 'Ex Ratione Marmorum Milesiorum'³; however, this marble does not correspond to Pliny's description of the marble of Miletus, which he says was black.

Another variety of the ancient grey marble is the Bigio Morato,⁴ which Corsi⁵ believes to be the famous Lucullan marble of which Pliny says, 'Four years after this Lepidus, L. Lucullus was consul; the same person who gave its name, it is very evident, to the Lucullan marble; for, taking a great fancy to it, he introduced it at Rome. While other kinds of marble are valued for their spots or their colours, this marble is entirely black. It is found on the island of Melos and is pretty nearly the only marble that has taken its name from the person who first introduced it. Among these personages Scaurus, in my opinion, was the first to build a theatre with walls of marble . . .'⁶ Again, Pliny tells us that it was of this marble that Scaurus decorated his house,⁷

¹ Brecciated grey.

² William Hamilton, *Asia Minor*.

³ Bruzza, *op. cit.*

⁴ Blackish grey.

⁵ Corsi, *op. cit.*

⁶ Pliny, *op. cit.*, Book xxxvi, chap. 8.

⁷ See page 6.