

**“Manual of Marble and Marble Working”**  
– 1857 Book Review –

In *Putnam’s Monthly Magazine of American Literature,  
Science and Art*, Vol. 9, No. 49  
January 1857, pp. 101

This article, which begins on the next page,  
is presented on the Stone Quarries and Beyond web site.

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## “Manual of Marble and Marble Working”

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“A little *Manuel of Marbles and Marble-Working*, from the French, has been issued by Messrs. Sheldon, Blakeman & Co., which, in an unpretending way, gives a solid handful of information. It is a book of a class numerous and in constant use in the old countries, concisely narrating the experience and present methods of mankind in each art. For want of such here, we stupidly reexperiment, and repeat, on Broadway, blunders a century old. There be marbles and marbles, for instance, and for our Washington monuments at Baltimore and Washington there have been chosen glittering stones, which, with ten years’ exposure, go cracking and crumbling to pieces. The material in the new works of the Capitol we have heard severely criticized. A brief appendix upon American marbles confirms the statement in our issue of October, 1854, that we have no need to send abroad for the finest statuary marbles. We continue, however, to depend upon Carrara – having paid last year two hundred and thirty thousand dollars for foreign marbles. We note, as two crumbs of comfort, that, in Glen’s Falls, two hundred and seventy-five saws are cutting out black mantels, and that the quarries of Vermont yield annually a round million of dollars.”

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### Note:

You will find a copy of this book transcribed on our web site, Stone Quarries and Beyond, at the link below:

*The Marble-Workers’ Manual. Designed for the Use of Marble-Workers, Builders, and Owners of Houses. Containing practical information respecting marbles in general; their cutting, working, and polishing; veneering of marble; painting upon and coloring of marble; mosaics; composition and use of artificial marble, stuccos, cements, receipts, secrets, etc., etc. (1856)* Translated from the French, by M. L. Booth, with an **Appendix Concerning American Marbles**. Sheldon, Blakeman & Co., New-York, 1856.

[http://quarriesandbeyond.org/articles\\_and\\_books/marble\\_workers\\_manual/mwh-contents.html](http://quarriesandbeyond.org/articles_and_books/marble_workers_manual/mwh-contents.html)

You will also find a scanned version of *The Marble-Workers’ Manual* on the Internet Archive web site at the link below:

<http://archive.org/details/marbleworkersma01bootgoog>