

# **“Tennessee Marble”**

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“The peculiar and striking beauty of variegated marble of Tennessee has arrested the attention of builders in every part of the United States. Not only is it now used for ornamenting buildings, both public and private, but it is largely consumed in the manufacture of furniture. This marble exists in great abundance in the counties of Hawkins, Hancock, Grainger, Jefferson, Knox, Roane, Blount, Monroe, McMinn and Bradley, in East Tennessee, and in Franklin, Moore and Maury in Middle Tennessee, and Henry and Benton in West Tennessee. The best, however – that of finest grain and susceptible of the highest polish – is found in East Tennessee. Fashion rules in the shades of the coloring. When the colors are blended into each other in the stone, it is rejected for fine work. The most popular is where the white spots are distinctly outlined in a red or variegated ground, and quarries of this of this kind are considered extremely valuable. The variation of coloring is infinite. Dr. Jernagin collected for the Bureau of Agriculture nearly 100 varieties, all differing in the arrangements of colors. This industry is developing rapidly. Five years ago there were but four or five quarries in East Tennessee. The *Industrial Review*, at Knoxville, now reports 40. At this rapid increase is due to increased demand. It now commands a price 25 per cent greater than the white Italian marble, and is used for every purpose for which that celebrated marble is used – except in sculpture. – *Nashville American*