

## **“California Granites”**

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Peggy B. Perazzo - Email: [pbperazzo@comcast.net](mailto:pbperazzo@comcast.net)

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### California Granite.

As a constructing material, granite leads all other building stone in California. Sandstone (native California), comes second, when stone work is considered. Of course, various kinds of brick are used very generally in building. A majority of the business buildings of San Francisco, Oakland and other large cities and towns of California are constructed of handsome pressed brick of various designs and colors.

Both granite and sandstone are extensively used for exterior construction. There are a great number of what are known as "composite" buildings—where several kinds of stone and brick are used together in

and the demand is constant and increasing. A large percentage is used for monuments, slabs and costly mausoleums, vaults, etc.

For all heavy, massive and enduring construction, granite may be considered the "King Stone" in California. The state has wonderful resources in sandstone, marble and granite.

In Madera County, not far from the little town of Raymond, about 165 miles from San Francisco, is located one of the most important granite deposits in the country.

There is a large quarry in operation there, from



VIEW IN GRANITE QUARRY OF WILSON-LYON CONSTRUCTION CO. AT RAYMOND, CAL.

various proportions. A great many of the finest buildings are constructed of granite and sandstone with the interior facings of the walls of brick.

A very handsome and showy material is the red sandstone of Arizona. As it is brought hundreds of miles by rail, it is rather an expensive material and comparatively few buildings are constructed exclusively of this stone. It is, however, widely used for trimmings, copings, cornices, and ornamental work of every kind, as it is worked into fine ornamental designs very easily.

Large quantities of all kinds of marble,—native, Eastern and foreign,—are used as building material,

which stone is shipped to San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Los Angeles and other California cities. This quarry is owned and controlled by the Wilson-Lyon Construction Company, whose headquarters are in San Francisco, a corporation of unlimited financial resources. This company is officered as follows: President, H. Wilson; vice-president, J. A. Byrne; secretary, H. M. Owens; treasurer, Hugh Dimond; directors, J. H. Batcher, Robt. J. Britzman and Joseph Slye.

This is one of the largest stone contracting firms on the Pacific Coast. The land holdings are nearly 200 acres, and the entire tract contains large granite



deposits—all of A1 stone—clean, hard and white. There are very few flaws or large mica spots, and the material takes a very handsome polish.

These granite deposits are of unknown depth, and blocks can be quarried much larger than the machinery can handle. All the stone in the main quarry is singularly free from flaws or blemishes of any kind.

The company has a complete plant for handling the output, both at the quarries and finishing sheds. A large force of skilled stone cutters is employed the year round, and a railway spur runs from the main line into the quarry.

Many of the great business blocks of San Francisco

are constructed of Madera County granite. Prominent among these may be mentioned the new Post Office building, which, when completed, will cost \$4,000,000; the great Flood Estate Block, costing nearly \$3,000,000, and the immense Merchants' Exchange Building, 14 stories high (just finished), costing over \$2,000,000.

The stone has no superior for hardness, fineness of grain and durability, and Wilson-Lyon Construction Company have some of the largest contracts for buildings to be erected from this granite of any firm on the Pacific Coast.

J. MAYNE BALTIMORE.

### New Entrance Structures, Masonic Cemetery, San Francisco.

The imposing entrance to the Masonic Cemetery in San Mateo County, Cal., a short distance from San Francisco, was recently completed at a cost of about \$50,000. The Wilson-Lyon Construction Company, of San Francisco, were the contractors, and T. Paterson Ross, architect, of San Francisco, has had personal supervision of the construction.

The structure is of California granite, from the quarry of the Wilson-Lyon Co., near Raymond, Madera County, 165 miles from San Francisco. The setting of the granite work occupied over two months, and was very successfully performed.

The entire building is constructed of this white granite, with Spanish tile roof, with considerable ornamentation. The total height of the tower is 55 feet and the arch 18 feet. The full width of the building is 120 feet.

The chapel (shown at the left in the photograph) has an open timber roof with oak finish, with marble columns at the chancel.

At the end of the chapel, behind the chancel, is the receiving vault, connecting underground, with 100 or more catacombs, all marble lined, and closed by doors with heavy bronze hinges, and art glass effects.

The office building (at the right of the photograph) contains offices and waiting-rooms, mortuary conveniences, superintendent's offices, etc.

The structure is massive and imposing throughout, and one of the finest buildings of the kind on the Pacific coast.

The cemetery is under the management of the Masonic Cemetery Association of San Francisco, and is one of the most attractive of the suburban burial grounds in the neighborhood of that city. It occupies a fine site outside of the city limits, and the new entrance structures form a fitting addition to its other substantial improvements. It is conveniently situated for interments from the city, and can be reached from the heart of San Francisco in a half-hour's ride on the electric cars.

CALIFORNIAN.



GROUP OF ENTRANCE BUILDINGS, MASONIC CEMETERY, SAN FRANCISCO.