

FACTS ABOUT MARBLE. How the Rugged Rock Is Converted Into

Polished Variegated Slabs. nonument or mantel, or even a soda water ount in a drug store, and admire the highlished variegated marble, says the New Tork Commercial Advertiser, realize the amount of time and labor that has been expended in the evolution of the completed structure from the raw materials. The highly-colored varieties are found chiefly in Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, or Portugal, though sometimes in Mexico or Algeria. The white stone is common in this State. Among the marbles which most frequently

enter into composition of fancy apparatus Italian-white, vernal and clouded, with bluish gray: Etrurian-pure porcelain white, Sara-gossa shuded cream white, veined with dark gray; Algerian and Mexican onyx-translucent veined with opaque white, yellow, or pink; Bardglio-delicately veined gray Carrancolm-shaded pearl gray, dashed with carn il-nan red; Sienna-golden yellow, clouded with white and veined with olive and brown; Ten. nessee-chocolate, frosted with white; Genoa -green; Brocatel-richly mottled, yellow, purple, brown, white and red; Violet Brocatel-purple, mottled and veined with golde : yellow; L sbon-redd.sh; Gryotte of France-deep red, shaded with rel and brown; Gryotte Fleure-purplish red, mottled with pearl white; Warwick-brilliant red, veined with white; Belgian-velvely black; Africap - yellow, w.th pu ple veins; Rouge Antique-deep red; Knoxville-grayish pink, with light blue veining,

The colored marbles retain their freshness longer and can be repolished after many years' use.

The marble is extracted from the quarry in oblong blocks cut out by means of

Except when designated for statuary or building purposes the first thing the manufacturer does is to place the block of marble under a gang-saw in order to saw it into slabs. The gang-saw consists merely of a series of parallel saws, to which an oscillating motion is imparted while they are kept fed with sand and water. When they come from the gang-saw the slabs are generally about 11/2 inches thick, so that they may dress to one inch when rubbed on both sides. The slabs are then inspected. To the inexperienced eye the rough slabs are much alike, and while the good qualities of the slab are only fully brought out under the polisher's mop, the imperceptible defects are also magnified very much. It is therefore necessary to detect flaws before the polishing begins. The perfect slabs are cut into required lengths by a rip-saw and passed to the rubbing bed to be rubbed smooth. The rubbing

bed consists of a solid horizontal cast-iron wheel about four inches thick and usually about twelve or thirteen feet in diameter. This wheel is fixed in a vertical shaft which revolves on two chilled steel friction balls, placed one upon the other, and inclosed in a cast-iron box which is kept well supplied with oil. The box itself is firmly imbedded in a stone foundation, and the entire structure is made as true and as steady as possible. It requires a great deal of care and attention to keep the rubbing-bed perfectly true; and it is sometimes necessary to rub it down for a whole week with bluestone in order to keep the surface smooth.

When the slab leaves the rubbing-bed it is comparatively smooth, and is ready to be cut out by hand into its final shape. It then passes into the hands of the polishers, who are provided with rubbers made of ordinary ticking rolled up into a mop of about three or four inches in diameter and sewed firmly through and through With these they rub the surface of the slab back and forth, hour after hour, until they bring out the high polish so much admired. The marble is first rubbed with grit, then with pumicestone, and then with hone. On some white marbles oxalic acid is then used, and finally the finishing touches are given with putty of zinc. On colored marbles emery and French putty, prepared with sulphur and lead, are used. It is estimated that each square foot of surface polished costs one man four hours of steady work. In gilding, four or five gold leaves are blown into a cushion made of a board .covered with chamois. The gilder cuts it into strips a quarter of an inch wide, lays it on the marble with his "tip." then "cottons" it on, after which he rubs it down with a fine hair brush in order to smooth the laps and form an even and continuous surface. He then cleans off the edges with cuttle fish. Great dexterity is acquired by gilders, and they seem to handle with the greatest ease the delicate gold leaf which the slighest breath of air is sufficient to carry off, and which in inexperienced hands is utterly unmanageable The variegated, dark-colored marbles are most expensive, but they are also generally harder and more durable, as well as more beautiful, than those that are white or light colored. The common white marble, which is not so valuable from an ornamental point. of view, has a separate value as being the best basis for the production of carbonic acid gas for the manufacture of "soda" water and all other carbonated beverages, and a large trade is done in it for this purpose. It has succeeded whiting and bicarbonate of soda in this respect on account of its cheapness. A barrel of good marble-dust, weighing about 400 pounds, costs \$1.25. An equal quantity of whiting costs about \$3.50, and produces no more gas. A like weight of bicarbonate of soda produces a double amount of gas, but costs about \$7. As far as chemical composition is concerned marble and whiting are analogousboth are carbonates of lime, and when equally pure both contain the same amount of carbonic acid. Whiting, however, is rarely, if ever, as pure as marble. It consists chiefly of the remains of extremely small animalcules.

CONJURING IN INDIA. Celebrated Feats Whose Performance Is Indeed a Mystery.

Indian jugglers are famous not only for their tricks, but for the apparent case and Dr. Norman' Macleod describes his own most celebrated feats was accomplished:

Through one of my friends. I asked for the well-known Mango trick. I am told that how the trick is done, but whenever I made inquiries I have found, to my regret, that at that moment they have always forgotten the secret.

While the tomtom was beating and the pipe playing, the juggler, singing all the time in low accents, smoothed a place in the gravel three or four yards before us. Having thus prepared a bed for the plant to grow in, he took a basket and placed it over the prepared place, covering it with a thin blanket. The man himself did not wear a thread of clothing except a strip round the

The time seemed now to have come for the detective's eye! So, just as he was becoming more earnest in his song, and while the tom-tom beat and the pipe shrilled more loudly, I stepped forward, with becoming dignity, and begged him to bring the basket and its cover to me.

He cheerfully complied, and I carefully examined the basket, which was made of open wicker-work. I then examined the cloth covering, which was thin, almost transparent, and certainly had nothing concealed in it.

Then I fixed my eyes on his strip of clothing with such intentness that it was not possible it could be touchea without discovery, and bade him go on, feeling sure that the trick could not succeed.

Sitting down he stretched his naked arms under the basket, singing and smiling as he did so, then lifted the basket off the ground, and behold a green plant about a foot high!

Satisfied with our applause, he went on with his incantations. After having sat a little, to give his plant time to grow, he again lifted the basket, and the plant was now two feet high.

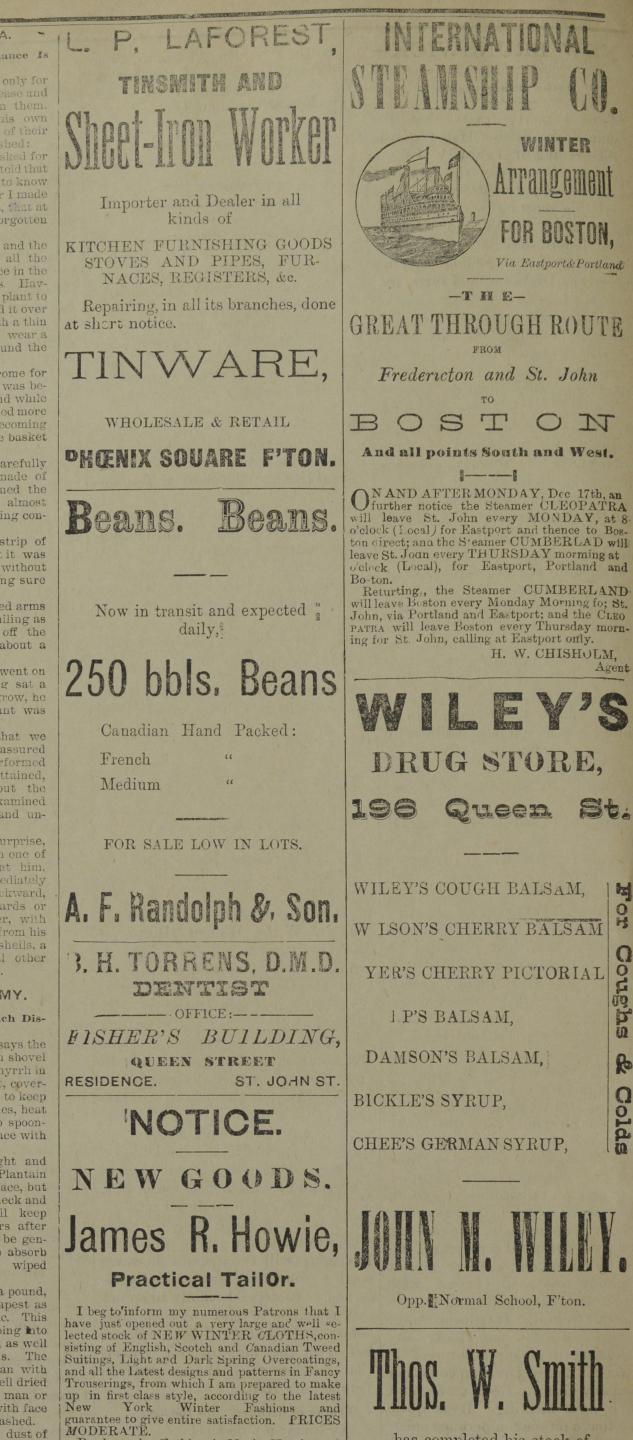
He asked us to wait awhile, that we might taste the fruit! But being assured by those who had seen the trick performed before that this result would be attained, I confessed myself "done" without the slightest notion of the how. I examined the ground, and found it smooth and unturned.

Apparently delighted with my surprise, the juggler stood up laughing, when one of his companions chucked a pebble at him, which he put in his mouth. Immediately the same companion, walking backward, drew forth a cord of silk, twenty yards or so in length, after which the juggler, with his hands behind him, drew forth from his mouth two decanter stoppers, two shells, a spinning top, a stone, and several other things, followed by a long jet of fire.

PRETTY WOMEN'S ENEMY.

How to Remove the Wrinkles Which Disfigure So Many Faces.

A secret to take away wrinkles, says the Philadelphia Press, is to heat an iron shovel red hot, throw on it a spoonful of myrrh in powder and smoke the face over it, covering person and shovel with a sheet to keep in the fumes. Repeat this three times, heat the shovel again, and pour on it two spoonfuls of white wine, steaming the face with it three times.



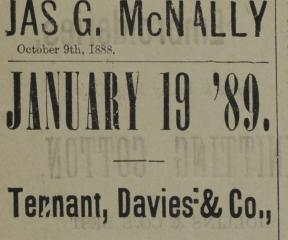
YES, FURNITURE CARPETS, CROCKERY and FANCY GOODS have all dropped lower in prices.

READ SOME SAMPLE PRICES.

Walnut Parlor Suits, \$35 00
Marble Top Chamber Suits 33 25
Woven Wire Mattrasses 3 00
Brussels Carpets, 95 cents per yard, cut to
match and made up free of charge.
Dinner Sets from \$7.50 up.
Ivoryware Tea Sets,\$2 75
All Brass Library Lamps 2 75
Parlor Lamps with Argand Burners
and Etched Globes-a real beauty, 1 50
White Granite Cups and Saucers, 50 cts.
and 70 cts. per dozen.
Best Rockingham Teapots, 15 cts., 20 cts.,

Best Crimped Chimneys, 4, 5 and 6 cents.

(Do not pay high prices when there is near you a cheap place to buy.)



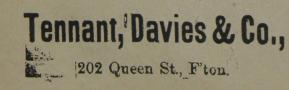
Our Cheap Sale of Winter

DRY - GOODS, Remnants, &c.,

Is still going on, and will continue to the end of the present month only. We are daily replenishing our

Bargain Counter

With odds and ends to clear before taking stock.



A good story is told by the Providence Journal of a well-known citizen of Providence who, in view of recent burglaries in his neighborhood, concluded to remain over night at his city residence. During the evening he lay down upon a lounge meditating what he would do in case his castle should be invaded by thieves that night. While thus meditating he fell asleep, and his slumbers were so refreshing that nearly two hours passed before he awoke. Opening his eyes and ears he fancied he saw and heard some one in the house. Securing a position which enabled him to have an unobstructed view, he saw a man in another room. He came upon him unexpectedly and struck him a blow which nearly felled him to the floor. Judge of his surprise when he discovered that the man he had so vigorously pounded was a policeman who had received instructions to guard the house while the owner was supposed to be out of the city with his family. The po-liceman told him in explanation of his pres-ence that he saw a light in the house, and finding the door unfastened, had walked in and been all over the house in search of the supposed thief or thieves, and had just telephoned to the station for help to make the

capture.

This rite is to be repeated night and morning until the effect is gained. Plantain water is very softening for the face, but vaseline rubbed on the skin of the neck and face every night faithfully will keep wrinkles at a distance for long years after their usual appearance. It should be generously applied, left for the skin to absorb a few minutes, and the excess wiped gently off with a soft cloth.

As vaseline is twenty-five cents a pound, which lasts a year, this is the cheapest as well as the safest general cosmetic. This should always be applied before going into the hot sun for long walks or rides, as well as domestic work in heated rooms. The skin must always be washed clean with warm water and fine soap and well dried before using any application, and man or woman always wants to go to bed with face and neck thoroughly and freshly washed.

Sleeping with the imperceptible dust of the day in the skin, clogging and griming it, is a great cause of wrinkles.

Delightful little toilet bran bags are making their appearance, filled with bran, grated olive soap and almonds, which pressed in water a few seconds gives a creamy lather to be rubbed on the face, neck and body, and wiped off with a soft towel, without rinsing. Those who like can make their own almond meal, as follows:

Grated almonds, one pound; flour, the same; powdered orris, one-quarter pound; lemon oil, one-half ounce; oil of bitter almonds, one-quarter ounce. The almond powder for the hands is blanched and powdered almonds, one-half pound; grated castile soap, four ounces; orris powder, one ounce; finely powdered pumice stone, three ounces; oil bitter almonds, one drachm.

Cocoa butter has long been used by Spanish creole women to nourish and soften the skin and prevent sunburn. Apple pomade is said to whiten the skin. Oil of white poppy seed, and of the four cold seeds, each a gill, with an ounce of white wax and three-quarters of an ounce of spermaceti made into a pomade, is applied to the neck and face to ward off wrinkles.

New Wood-Hardening Process.

"The recently invented process," says Iron, "by which wood is made to take on some of the special characteristics of metal has been turned to practical account in Germany. By this process the surface becomes so hard and smooth as to be susceptible of a high polish, and may be treated with a burnisher of either glass or porcelain, the appearance of the wood being then in every respect that of polished metal, having, in fact, the semblance of a polished mirror, but with this peculiar and advantageous difference, namely, that, unlike metal, it is unaffected by moisture. To reach this result the wood is steeped in a bath of caustic alkali for two or three days together, ac-cording to its degree of permeability, at a temperature of between 165 and 197 degrees. Fahrenheit. It is then placed in a second bath of hydrosulphate of calcium, to which a concentrated solution of sulphur is added after some twenty-four or thirty-six hours. The third bath is one of acetate of lead, at a temperature of from 95 to 120 degrees Fahrenheit, and in this latter the wood is. allowed to remain from thirty to fifty hours. After being subjected to a thorough drying it is in a condition for being polished with lead, tin or zinc, as may be desired, finishing the process with a burnisher, when the wood apparently becomes a piece of shining, polished metal."

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