

such kinds being generally sawn into slabs at the numerous cutting and polishing mills situated along the course of the stream. The purer varieties, which are perfectly white, crystalline, and free from flaws, are quarried in blocks, sometimes ten, twelve, or fourteen feet in length, for statuary purposes, and drawn on strong waggons by teams of bullocks down to the railway station at Carrara, whence they are sent to their various destinations. The town of Carrara itself, however, contains several studios of sculptors, who fashion the stone at the spot where it is quarried.

An examination of the marble-beds, and their associated schistose strata, shows at once that their crystalline structure is the result of metamorphism. They are referable to the Liassic and Oolitic, or Jurassic series, as determined by Professor Pilla,<sup>1</sup> who showed that the dark grey limestones of the Valley of Tecchia, containing Jurassic fossils, graduates by changes of colour and crystallization into the pure white of Carrara and Massa; a conclusion, in which Sir R. I. Murchison, who made a detailed examination of the whole chain of the Apennines, has fully concurred.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bull. Soc. Géol. de France, iv. 1068. Sir H. De la Beche suggested this view several years previously to Professor Pilla's determination. Proc. Geol. Soc. Lond. i. 164.

<sup>2</sup> A very graphic description of the geological structure of the Etrurian Apennines is to be found in Murchison's paper on the Geology of the Alps, Apennines, &c. Journ. Geol. Soc. Lond., vol. v.