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A GEOLOGIC OBELISK.

The numerous enquiries which this Department has been receiving regarding the nature, durability or appearance of certain specified stones, or concerning the identification of a specimen, have impelled the authorities of the College to attempt the erection of an obelisk out of the representative building stones of the Commonwealth, and thus to furnish in a substantial form an attractive compendium of information for quarrymen, architects, students and visitors. Requests for contribution of representative material from their quarries have been made of the stone operators of this State. These have met with hearty responses and we are assured of at least fifty stones at present. These, in addition to the two hundred yet to be procured, will be tastefully arranged for display. Many of them will be dressed or polished to best reveal their merits. On some of the blocks a face shows the several modes of dressing them and the effects thereof.

By arranging the stones in courses so as also to exhibit their geologic correlation the educational value of the obelisk is further enhanced. Every course of stone will represent a period, its four or more component blocks being selected with care, as typical of that formation, irrespective of the county from which the same were quarried. Thus a beautiful specimen of marble from Mifflin county, in the same course with a limestone from Monroe county, is reposing upon characteristic specimens from Niagara Falls and Bedford county, underneath a fine sample of glass sandstone from Schuylkill county. Again, a slab of sandstone from the coal mines at Dudley, donated by W. H. Sweet, lies in the same course with its equivalent from Luzerne, Tioga and Washington counties, the keystone carved upon its face being a fitting symbol of the relation which the Broad Top region bears to the two divisions of coal measures of the State, on either side of the grand anticlinal arch of the Appalachian chain. The courses then are laid in their geologic sequence with the granite and serpentine of Chester county at the base, the cement stones of Lehigh county higher up, and the oil-bearing Dunkard sand near the top, surmounted by a specimen from the great Cornwall deposits of magnetite. Upon the individual members of the series are stamped the numbers and symbols by which their respective formations were designated by the second geological survey of Pennsylvania, thus presenting on their face every possible formation to the visitor. In the selections of specimens care has been exercised to procure as far as possible characteristic materials, and in this the quarrymen have shown their appreciation by a generous assistance. Further contributions, too, are looked for, and, when completed, the polyolith should be an ornament of great utility, serving many purposes, besides enabling us to respond to applications for information from those in the building trade. This latter end will be furthered by the preparation and distribution of illustrated descriptive pamphlets, containing a brief geologic history of the State, together

with accounts of the quarries represented in the obelisk and of the stone composing the column. The MINING BULLETIN will later supplement the information given by the pamphlets.

Below is given a list of those who promptly donated a dressed or faced specimen from their quarry:

Joseph Alexander, Madera, Pa., one block Clarion sandstone.

Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co., R. C. Luther, Gen. Supt., Pottsville, Pa., one block Pottsville conglomerate.

H. F. Peters, Reedsville, Pa., four blocks, pink, white, green and red Medina and Oneida sandstones.

R. H. Johnston, Wayne, Pa., one block trap rock.

Avondale Marble Co., Avondale, Chester Co., Pa., two blocks polished and lettered Avondale marble.

J. B. Smith, quarryman, Reedsville, Pa., one block Trenton limestone, one block black marble.

Eagle Marble and Granite Works, Reading, Pa., one block Pennsylvania diamond granite.

Schweyer and Liess, King of Prussia, Pa., one block blue marble, one block dark blue marble.

McWain Bros., Bellemonte, Lancaster Co., Pa., one block dressed limestone.

Oliver Powder Co., Oliver's Mills, Pa., one block new red sandstone.

Isaac Hegarty, Madera, Pa., one block Pottsville conglomerate. No. XII.

Hogelan Run Oölitic Limestone and Sandstone Quarries, Briëning & Meyers, Cogan Station, Pa., one block flagging, No. XI., b₁, one block grey Oölitic limestone, No. XI., b₂, one dressed block Oölitic limestone, No. XI., b₃, one block Rosebuff Oölitic limestone, formation No. XI., b₄.

Trustees of the Lycoming Centre Chapel, one block sandstone, formation No. XII.

The New England Brownstone Co., Cromwell, Middlesex Co., Conn., one block dressed and lettered New England brownstone.

Hummelstown Brownstone Co., Waltonville, Dauphin Co., Pa., one block dressed Hummelstown brown sandstone.

W. H. Sweet, Dudley, Pa., one block of sandstone.

Perry Bros. Steam Stone Works, Ellettsville, Ind., one block sawed Oölitic limestone.

Asbury Lord, Madera, Pa., one block Clarion sandstone No. XIII.

C. B. Alexander, Madera, Pa., one block Pottsville conglomerate No. XII.

Leiper & Lewis, Granite Quarries, Chester, Del. Co., Pa., one block of Biotite granite.

The Cleveland Stone Co., Cleveland, Ohio, one block sawed Berea grit stone.

A. G. De Huff, Lebanon, Pa., one block dressed and lettered new red sandstone.

Chapman Slate Company, Chapman Quarries, Northampton Co., Pa., one block slate.

W. M. Zeigler, Gettysburg, Pa., one block granite.

Lewis D. Gumb, Steam Polishing Granite Works, Lowell, Mass., one block granite.

William Mitchell, Springfield, Mass., one block dressed Long-meadow red sandstone.

In addition to the above the following have given their aid by personal solicitation or by assistance in other ways to the ultimate success of this enterprise.

P. B. Breneman, Saxton, Pa.

C. W. Hardt, Wellsboro, Pa.

Hayes W. Mattern, Gettysburg, Pa.

F. L. Olds, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Prof. G. R. Wieland, Chester, Pa.

F. K. Zentmyer, Clearfield, Pa.

Below is given also a list of those who have kindly consented to furnish a specimen :

W. L. Affelder, Allegheny, Pa.

J. R. Bittinger, Hanover, Pa.

Joseph Brinton, Thornburg, Pa.

B. Amy & Co., Greenville, Pa.

J. M. Coole, Bowling Green Stone Co., Louisville, Ky.

F. J. Fuller, Bocabec Black Granite Co.

David Gring, Newport, Pa.

Frank Guinness, Allegheny, Pa.

Killbrick Brownstone Co., Killbrick, Ohio.

David Knaver, St. Peter's, Pa.

R. W. Lesley, 22 South 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

R. A. Hall, Whitehall, N. Y.

E. L. Morris, Hornbrook, Pa.

O. B. Norris, Bellefonte, Pa.

Christopher Fallon, Philadelphia, Pa.

E. U. Smith, Finleyville, Pa.

David Steumpfle, Williamsport, Pa.

M. D. Tiffany, Nicholson, Wyoming, Co., Pa.

Walker's Mills Quarry Co., Walker's Mills, Pa.

J. W. Campbell, Reed's Gap, Juniata Co., Pa.