under water. Hence the Lias limestone has always been largely employed in the building of piers and other structures that require to be constructed under water. Cement stones are also found to some extent in the Eocene strata, and are obtained from nodules dredged from the sea-bottom at Harwich, and the south of England. These are transported hither and thither, to be used as occasion may require.

The chief building stones of our country, of a hewable kind, are the limestones of the Oolitic rocks, the Magnesian Limestone, the Carboniferous Limestone, the Carboniferous sandstones, and the sandstones of the Old and New Red series. The Caradoc Sandstone, also in Shropshire near Church Stretton, yields a good building stone. The chief Oolitic building stones are from the Isle of Portland and the Bath Oolite. St. Paul's and many other churches in London were built of Portland stone, and the immense quantities of rejected stones in the old quarries, show how careful Sir Christopher Wren was in the selection of material. The Bath stone also affords a beautiful yellow limestone, which comes out of the quarries in blocks of great size, and is easily sawn and hewn into shape. Nearly the whole of Bath has been built of this stone, and it has been largely used in Westminster Abbey and other buildings in London. Excellent building stones are also got from the Inferior Oolite limestone, especially in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, from the Cotswold Hills.

In England the Magnesian Limestone is extensively quarried for building purposes. It is of very various qualities, sometimes exceedingly durable, resisting the effects of time and weather, and in other cases decomposing with considerable rapidity. The Houses of