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## CANADIAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDER,

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**The Slate Trade.** THE properties of slate and its adaptability to the uses of mankind are said to have been accidentally discovered in warlike times in Wales when the material, so abundant in that country, was used in the construction of earthworks and fortifications. This, of course, was long antecedent to its discovery and use in the United States. Now, however, slate to the value of nearly one million dollars per year is exported from the United States to Great Britain. This trade began in 1876, and strange to say, at that time, Welsh slates were still being exported to New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

**Capital and Labor.** WE commend to the consideration of the leaders of the labor organizations, the following opinions regarding the rights of capital and labor as expressed by Mr. P. M. Arthur, President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers: "I differ from many labor leaders as to the methods to be pursued in bringing about the best results. I say organized labor is the hope and salvation of the workingmen. The great stumbling block that has injured us in so many ways is the so-called labor organization which attempts to dictate. It cannot see two sides to any question. We should give and take. The interests of capital and labor, I say, are identical, and the only way these matters can be settled is by a fair honest method—Christianity, I might say. We must do unto others as we would have them do unto us. We must recognize the fact that we are all entitled to certain considerations. What is capital? You work, accumulate money and get into business. Must you be condemned for that? I say no. That is capital. It is only when it becomes tyrannical that we resist it."

### Another Building Collapse.

THE London City Hall disaster came near being repeated at Owen Sound last month. The floor of the police court was densely packed with persons witnessing the progress of a trial, when suddenly there was heard a loud cracking noise. Following this the floor began to settle, and the frightened crowd made a rush for the doors. The concentrated pressure having been thus relieved, the settlement ceased, and all escaped injury. The floor dropped a distance of two feet at the