

What an Eminent Firm of Analytical Chemists have to say about Newfoundland Slates *continued.*

little porous. In both cases, although the colour is changed, yet the texture of the extracted samples is not appreciably affected.

Samples of the slates were exposed to the action of frost and of sulphurous acid, the latter simulating the corroding effect of the air of large towns, with the result that, although the test specimens were soaked in water, and repeatedly frozen and thawed, both the green and purple

were unaffected. Test specimens were also exposed to a moist atmosphere containing sulphurous acid, and were unaffected.

In conclusion, as the result of these tests, we are of opinion that both samples are of excellent quality, and in composition and in resistance to weathering and destructive agencies, are comparable to Penrhyn slates."

Newfoundland Slate compared with Welsh Slate.

The superior quality and quantity of the Newfoundland Slate beds is the surprise of all who visit them. They are of the same formation as the Welsh Slates. Mr. James P. Howley, F.G.S., head of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland, says in a recent report to the Government on the Mineral statistics of Newfoundland:

"These slates belong to the lower Cambrian series of rocks, the same in which the celebrated Carnarvon slates occur."

Slates of the Cambrian formation have been subjected to the greatest and most severe compression, and are therefore exactly like the best Welsh Slate the hardest and most durable *in life and colour* in the world. The similarity is abundantly proved by

the following comparative analysis:

ANALYSIS OF WELSH SLATE.	ANALYSIS OF NEWFOUNDLAND SLATE.
<i>Silica</i> - - - 60.50	<i>Silica</i> - - - 64.34
<i>Alumina</i> - - - 19.70	<i>Alumina</i> - - - 19.10
<i>Iron protoxide</i> 7.83	<i>Oxide of Iron</i> - 6.38
<i>Lime</i> - - - - 1.12	<i>Lime</i> - - - - 1.36
<i>Magnesia</i> - - - 2.20	<i>Magnesia</i> - - - 3.31
<i>Potash</i> - - - - 3.18	<i>Carbon Dioxide</i> trace
<i>Soda</i> - - - - 2.20	<i>Potassium</i>
<i>Water</i> - - - - 3.30	<i>Sodium</i> - - - none
	<i>Sulphuric</i>
	<i>Anhydride</i> - none
	<i>Moisture and</i>
	<i>Organic matter</i> 3.30
	97.79
	<i>Difference</i> 2.24
100.03	100.03

The variation (2.24 per cent.) is so slight that the best Slate of Wales is considered identical with Newfoundland's vast deposits.