

**I**N relation to the safe methods of covering houses to prevent the communication of fire, some persons, now bound for Canada, intend to try if slate will stand the frost. Iron-plate coverings are certainly the best. As to turning the edges of the plates one within another, this method is practised in Sweden, as well as Russia, but it is subject to some inconveniences, as being apt to break the edges. There is another method less costly as to the labor, and which will probably answer much better, viz. to cover the boards which compose the top of the house with two layers of brown paper, dipt in hot tar; then lay on two iron plates, every other one, so that the third may over-lap about an inch on each of the two: brown paper dipt in tar must be under the third, as well as the two first plates, and extended so far as to come under the fastenings of the plates, to consolidate