

haps also to some extent in that of the old world, is to be expected mainly from Vermont, it may not be uninteresting here to refer to the slate resources of that state. Three belts of slate rock occur in the state running southward down its eastern, middle and western portions. In the first, which keeps near the boundary of New Hampshire, the slate is of a dark color, and the cleavage generally corresponds with the planes of stratification. Although the belt has a great thickness, but little of it is available for working owing to contortions, the presence of foreign ingredients, imperfect cleavage and cross joints. An occasional band, however, is found to be suitable for roofing slates, and upon one of them the Guilford quarries are situated. The slates of this locality are sufficiently durable, but owing to their thickness, require a heavily timbered roof to support them. They are also liable to become rusty from the presence of oxide of iron. The situation of these quarries is such as to prevent their produce competing successfully with the slates imported from Wales. The slate bands in the eastern belt dip at high angles to the horizon, and thus have an advantage for working, over those of the western belt.

The middle slate belt extends from the Canada line at Lake Memphremagog about half way down the middle of the state. In places it is found to split into thin sheets, and is of a uniform color, —nearly black—differing in these respects from the slate bands of the eastern belt. Northfield, near the centre of the state, is the only place at which it has been worked. Here the price of slate delivered on the cars is \$3.75 a square, or 50 cents more than Mr. Walton's price, on the Grand Trunk cars at Richmond. It may not be generally known that a square of slates is a hundred square feet, and that the greater the number required to make this area, the smaller the price per square.

The workable seams of the westerly belt are largely quarried for roofing and other purposes in the southwestern part of the state, where slate manufacturing forms a leading branch of industry. The slate is of a more uniform character than that of the eastern or the middle belt, and more exempt from foreign matter, which renders it capable of being sawn, as slab slate, and used for a great variety of purposes. The color of most of the western Vermont slates, like that of the Welsh, is dark purple, sometimes mottled with green spots. Bands of green, and sometimes of red slate are likewise found in this part of the state. Whatever may