

THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONTARIO, AUG., 1882

Sent free to every Jeweler and Hardware Merchant in the Dominion of Canada.

Advertising Rates.

Full Page.	-	-	\$20 00	each issue
Half Page.	-	-	12 00	"
Quarter Page.	-	-	8 00	"

Small Advertisements, 8 cents per line

A discount of 25 per cent will be allowed from the above rates for yearly contracts. All advertisements payable monthly.

Business and other communications should be addressed to

THE TRADER PUBLISHING CO.,

13 Adelaide Street East, Toronto.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To ensure insertion, changes or new advertisements must be sent to the office not later than the 27th of each month.

Editorial.

TRADE PROSPECTS.

We are glad to learn from the various sections of the country, that the prospects of an average crop will be more than realized, and that from the present indications the harvest of 1882 will be even more abundant than that of last year. This is cheering information, because depending as we do mainly upon our agricultural resources, it insures to the country at least another year of prosperity. An abundant harvest means to Canada wealth and prosperity, because, it puts the farmer in a position to pay for what he buys, it enables the general dealer to square up with the wholesale merchant, and it also enables the importer to meet his engagements with the foreign manufacturer, from whom he obtains his goods. Good crops and prices are the keystone of our national prosperity, and when we come to sift the whole matter down to first cause, we shall find that after all the farming population are the mainstay of the country, and it depends almost entirely upon their condition whether trade is prosperous or adverse. Those who live in cities are often apt to underrate the status of the farmer in the commercial economy of the country, but as a matter of fact, the storekeepers and manufacturers spring into existence almost entirely in order to supply the farmers' wants, and when this class becomes too numerous to do

this economically, some of them are bound to go to the wall for want of something to do. This being the case, it is of the utmost importance to our commercial interests that our farmers should be prosperous, because poor crops through them, means disaster to the whole mercantile community. For these reasons we are glad to be able again to chronicle the fact that our crop prospects are above the average, and give every sign of an abundant harvest. Our merchants throughout the country may therefore look forward to a very busy time this fall, and may pretty safely calculate on a large and paying trade. With this in view, they should now begin to make preparations by getting their stock in good shape, jobbing off their old lines and making way for the novelties that are sure to be put upon the market. A word to the wise is sufficient, and we trust that all our friends will be found ready to take advantage of the increased trade that is sure to follow an abundant harvest.

ABSCONDING DEBTORS.

Although a certain proportion of people in business are bound to fail, and that, in spite of their utmost endeavours to prevent it, it is no reason why others who might command success were they so disposed, should deliberately lay themselves out to "come to grief" and not only cheat their creditors but forever ruin their own reputation.

It is a lamentable fact however that such is the case, and that traders are to be found (rarely we are happy to say) who will thus by deliberately swindling their creditors make their name stink in the nostrils of all honest men. As a rule creditors have a good deal of sympathy and are always ready to help an insolvent who through misfortune or a combination of circumstances beyond his own control, has been forced to succumb to the pressure, but for the debtor who deliberately lays his plans to cheat his creditors and enrich himself at their expense, there can be nothing too severe and he should be punished if possible to the full extent of the law. An honest man, although an insolvent, while he may not like to have to ask the leniency of his creditors, has or ought to have the courage to meet them face to face and state his case and ask their sympathy and assistance, and as we have said above this is only in exceptional instances where such help is asked

that it is withheld. It is only the dishonest debtor whose career will not bear the daylight, that has any cause, or as a rule, who does light out and seek new fields in which to find fresh victims.

We are glad to say that Canada is not cursed with many merchants of this class, and we could do without even the few we have if we could be safely relieved of their presence. One of the latest of these "emigrants" and the one who has given rise to these remarks is R. H. Gordon, jeweler, of Ridgetown, Ont., a gentleman whose sudden departure has left many sad hearts and badly balanced accounts amongst the wholesale trade of this Province. Mr. Gordon has been in business for some years, and although regarded with suspicion and refused credit by some houses, succeeded in working himself into the confidence of others. The result has proven that this confidence has been sadly misplaced and that Mr. Gordon's line of credit should have been limited to any goods he paid the cash for before he got them.

A few weeks ago Mr. Gordon's creditors were astonished at receiving from his clerk an "identical note" which read as follows:—"Mr. Gordon and wife went for a trip on the upper lakes last week; I have just received a letter from him to say that he will not be back again, and to send you some goods which I have sent you by express this day."

This is certainly about the coolest although hardly the most refreshing thing we have heard during this hot spell, especially when it is known that the goods returned did not amount to anything like a tythe of the amount of his indebtedness. It is to be hoped that the creditors will take the trouble to follow Mr. Gordon up and have him disgorge the plunder he managed to secure before he sailed away on the western pleasure trip.

Exit Gordon—having left Canada for the country's good, we trust that the farewell will be a long one, as this country does not take kindly to merchants having proclivities such as the one indicated by the letter published above.

AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL.

The case of Fruidentburg v. Ellis, of which mention has several times been made in our columns is, although uncommon, not altogether singular. We have known several instances during the past ten years, of merchants who suddenly