

THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONT., APRIL, 1886.

The recognized organ of the Jewelry and kindred Industrial Trades of Canada. Published on the first of every month, and sent free to every dealer in Jewelry and kindred goods in the Dominion of Canada. Our rates for advertising will be found very low, and will be made known upon application.

We shall be glad to receive correspondence from all parts, and will publish such letters as will be of interest to the Trade. We do not, however, hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents. The name and address must invariably accompany the communication, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee.

All business and other communications should be addressed to

THE TRADER PUBLISHING CO.,
57 ADELAIDE ST. W., TORONTO, ONT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To ensure insertion, changes or new advertisements must reach this office not later than the 20th of each month.

EDITORIAL.

WANTED.

The want of Canada is not politics so much as practical legislation. That is what representatives should be sent to parliament for, and that is what they should be paid for. One of the principal wants of the business community of Canada is an "Insolvent Act," and if the legislature ever get an opportunity to talk business for a few hours, they should put such a measure on the Statute Book.

It is too late in the day to discuss the advisability or the need of such a law. Its necessity is recognized in almost every civilized country in the world, and it is only because that our legislators prefer party to the interests of the country, that we have not had one in Canada before this. The present state of the law, or rather the want of a general law, is demoralizing in the extreme. No two provinces are alike in their treatment of debtors; every province apparently makes its own laws, and the result is that in some cases they are framed so as to discriminate against the residents of other provinces.

What we want is a general Insolvent Act, that will at once be fair alike to the debtor and creditor, and which will obtain from one end of the Dominion to the other. The present hole and corner system is demoralizing trade because it localizes it by preventing the free interchange of products between the provinces that is absolutely necessary if Canada is ever to become a great and powerful country. From a patriotic as well as a commercial standpoint, we would regard the passage of a first-class Insolvent Act as one of the most desirable things that the present parliament could do, and we trust that before they draw their sessional indemnity they will see that something practical is done in reference to it.

SMUGGLING.

As if to give emphasis to our statement in last month's TRADER, that smugglers, no matter how smart, were bound to get caught if they kept at it long enough, our readers will find elsewhere in this issue the experience of two Canadian jewelers. We need scarcely, after our remarks of last month, say anything on the subject, further than that the parties in question are not deserving of any sympathy for the loss and disgrace to which they have subjected themselves by their breaking the law of the

land. In both cases, however, while the principal actors in the transaction have met with just punishment, their accessories before the fact, have escaped scot free. We learn on good authority that at least three wholesale jewelry firms are implicated in these transactions, their part being to get American makers to ship the goods from their factory to some place on the border from whence the retail buyer could smuggle them over at his leisure and at his own risk. Although these firms are not actually guilty of smuggling the goods themselves, there can be no doubt but that they are abettors in the crime, for it was only by their action that the thing was made possible. We refrain from mentioning their names at this time, but if it becomes chronic we shall consider it our duty in the interests of business morality, to give their actions whatever publicity our columns will afford.

In this connection we are glad to learn that several of our leading wholesale houses who desire to see this illegal and ruinous competition stopped, have sent in to the Manufacturing Jewelers' Board of Trade (Providence, U. S.), a requisition asking them not to ship any goods to Canadian customers except to a Canadian port of entry, and to co operate with them in helping to suppress the evils which must and do arise to honest traders from smuggling. We are in receipt of a letter from the Secretary of the Board regarding this requisition, in which after advising us of the fact that the Board had received such a communication, he says: "I am instructed by our Board of Directors to place in your hands for publication in your valuable magazine the following resolution. 'That the Directors are heartily in accord with the attempt to suppress the evils complained of, and that they will exert their influence to sustain the principles and objects desired.' I have given the editor of the *Manufacturing Jeweler*, (our official organ) a copy of the petition and our views upon the subject which will be printed in their next issue." In a postscript he says: "I may add that I consider the move a *grand good* one, and I trust the petitioners may succeed in their efforts. I will do all that I can individually." The sentiments of the Board and their Secretary are manly and honorable, and do credit alike to their honesty of purpose and business perspicuity. Like the Providence Board of Trade, THE TRADER sincerely desires to see this movement against smuggling crowned with success.

HIGH PRICED EMOTION.

It is a common saying that "Canada possesses more politics to the square mile than any other country in the world," and if one were to judge from the vaporings of any of our houses of parliament they would probably conclude that there was a great deal more of truth than poetry in the remark. We have often expressed the view that if we had less of party and more of country about our parliaments it would be a great deal better for the welfare of the people at large. The petty bickerings of the little legislative show which Ontario holds every year in Toronto is bad enough, but when contrasted with the unseemly wranglings of the big guns down at Ottawa, it becomes to a degree. A stranger listening to the debates of the past few weeks on the North-West affairs and not knowing anything of the rebellion or its leader would no doubt fancy that the fate of the country hung on its issue. If he knew anything about the debaters he would conclude that the whole thing was a farce of the most transparent kind and that neither party cared a rap