

# THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONT., MAY, 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.

### EXCELSIOR'S ARTICLES.

We had no idea when we made the offer to the readers of THE TRADER in our March issue, to publish "Excelsior's" articles on Watchmaking, that the response would be so quickly and so unanimously made. From every part of Canada—from Halifax to Vancouver, we have received replies to our offer, and in every instance the pith of the letter has been "publish them by all means." Now that the trade have expressed an almost unanimous wish that we should republish these articles, we have decided to carry out our proposition, and commence their publication in next month's issue. We understand that "Excelsior" intends at some future time to complete the series of articles on this subject and publish them in book form, and while we shall advise every Canadian jeweler to purchase one of these books when they come out, we shall advise them at present to preserve very carefully every number of THE TRADER containing them, and have them bound up for future use and reference. If our space would allow us we would like to print in this issue the opinions of some of our leading Canadian watchmakers, who have read these articles carefully and preserved the numbers of the *Jewelers' Circular* in which they originally appeared. They are all unanimous in the opinion that they constitute the best work on practical watchmaking ever published, and that unless they were sure of being able to get another copy, they would not part with them for their weight in gold. This being the case, we trust that every jeweler who has not read them will do so carefully, and if they do, and try to attain to the standard of workmanship which "Excelsior" sets before them, we feel confident that they will be of lasting benefit to the trade in general. We cannot close without expressing our sincere thanks to our many friends throughout Canada for the very kind and flattering things they have said about us in the letters we have above referred to. We have been toiling and plodding along for the past seven years, scarcely knowing whether our work was being appreciated or not, and sometimes feeling as if we didn't care. The kind words contained in these letters have convinced us of the fact that THE TRADER is appreciated, and that it has got a very much stronger hold upon its readers than we had ever imagined it possessed. We don't care for taffy, but a few

words of appreciation once in a while does us good, and if we know ourselves we shall work all the better for them in the future.

Our thanks are also due to Mr. M. C. Ellis, of the firm of P. W. Ellis & Co., the well-known wholesale jewelers of this city, through whose kindness we are enabled to secure the complete set of "Excelsior's" articles, from which to republish them as promised.

## SHORTER PARLIAMENTARY SPEECHES.

We imagine the great mass of thinking electors in this country will agree with the principle laid down by Mr. Charlton in his bill for the curtailment of parliamentary speeches. While it may be a very nice thing for members to read these long orations in the *Hansard*, they must remember that as a rule, speeches are read by the public in proportion to their length. It may be safely asserted that where one person reads a newspaper report of a speech six columns long, a thousand will read one which is only half a column long. For the present state of affairs, we think the publication of the *Hansard* is in a great measure responsible, because it has a tendency to keep members with the gift of the gab on their legs long after they are through with anything new or original, bearing upon the subject under discussion.

This thing has got to be a public nuisance, and the M. P. who fails to grasp the situation, is certainly a poor discerner of the signs of the times. No man, no matter who he is, can speak six hours on any subject that can possibly come before our Canadian Parliament, and talk facts and common sense bearing on the subject in hand. Such speeches remind us a good deal of picnic lemonade, a single lemon to a barrel of water. If these wordy gentlemen would just take half the trouble to boil their speeches down instead of diluting them all that they can, they would carry a great deal more weight in Parliament, and be a great deal better received by the country at large.

Artemus Ward referring to this subject once said, that, "if a preacher can't strike ile in half an hour, he is either boring in the wrong spot or he's got a bad gimlet." There is more truth than poetry in this saying of Ward's, and what is true of pulpit preaching is equally true of parliamentary speaking.

These interminable speeches of three, four, five and even six hours, are not only insipid in themselves, distasteful to the listeners and laughed at by the general public, but they are a source of expense to the people that should not be tolerated. It costs about one hundred dollars an hour to run the Dominion Parliament, so that the country has to pay for the simple delivery of these pedantic orations from three to six hundred dollars each. In one case in a hundred the country may get value for the money spent, in the other ninety-and-nine the money is worse than wasted.

The remedy lies with the people and they should either make a law prohibiting speeches of more than one hour duration on any subject, or do away entirely with the sessional indemnity now paid to members of Parliament. Either remedy would have the effect of cutting off a great deal of windy and irrelevant verbiage which at the present time makes our sessions of Parliament both ridiculous and costly.