

THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONT., JULY, 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.

67 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.

POLITICAL MUDDLERS.

As a rule, our first-class business men don't bother their brains much about politics, and it is only when one or other of the political parties lays down some plank in its platform that is inimical to their interests that they take an active part in elections. The dyed in the wool Tory or Grit, that can always be depended upon to vote straight for the party ticket, is of very little account in an election, and politicians as a rule don't squander much ammunition on such game. The people who turn elections, and therefore those to whom both parties pay the greatest attention, are the men of independent mind, who, being without party ties, vote according to their own ideas of right and wrong. These men occupy the same position as a boy on the middle of the teeter, their weight on either side gives it a preponderance, and they are virtually the masters of the situation.

Some of our readers may wonder why a paper like THE TRADER, which is a purely commercial one, should at times apparently go out of its way to discuss political questions, and we may at once say that although we do not profess to dabble in politics, yet there are continually cropping up political questions which are also commercial questions, inasmuch as upon their correct solution depends in a great measure the future of the country. The question of a National Commercial Policy is the best example that we know of, for while it was made the real political issue in the federal campaign of 1878, it was also a commercial question that personally interested each voter in the Dominion.

We have more than once pointed out that the danger to the future of our country arises more from the feeling of unrest in our present political parties, than from any real trouble with the country itself. Both parties are looking round for an "election cry," and in our humble opinion neither of them care one-half as much for the welfare of the country as of their own party. It is not "What will be best for the country?" but "What will be best for our party?" and it is on this account, and from this direction, that independent and patriotic Canadians will have to look for the threatened danger.

As showing to what lengths party feeling will lead politicians, we have only to instance the insane and disloyal course of the *Globe* on the "Riel" question, or the defence of the iniquitous "Beatty scandal" by the *Mail*. Only the other day, the young

Liberals of Toronto had a convention, and decided on a platform which they instructed their delegates to support at the National Convention of Young Liberals to be held at Montreal early this month. The platform of these young lads who are amusing themselves by playing at politics would scarcely be worthy of more than a passing squib, were it not for the fact that it has been written up by the *Globe* in such a way as to draw the fire of the other side in particular, and the country in general, in order to let the party see how public opinion is swaying. As usual, on all debatable questions, the *Globe* is strictly non-committal. Its editorial chair is securely perched upon the tip-top of the fence and is ready to execute its journalistic flop with grace, if not with dignity, whenever the exigencies of party shall demand it. In their present attitude they remind us very much of Biles, Artemus Ward's partner in the show business. Artemus said his partner had a well balanced mind, for it balanced in any direction the public required. In a nutshell, this is the *Globe's* attitude on all debatable questions such as Independence, Commercial Union, &c.

Amongst the planks in the Toronto Young Liberals' platform which the *Globe* discusses and tacitly endorses because it does not repudiate them, are the following: "Canada's destiny is Independence," "Tariff for Revenue only," and "Commercial Union with the United States." A worse muddle than these three things we never heard of, and if the *Globe* or any one else can, outside of a lunatic asylum, show how Canada can have Commercial Union with the United States and keep up a revenue or any other tariff without becoming part and parcel of that "glorious Union" they are considerably smarter than we give them credit for. We could not possibly bring about Commercial Union with the United States until after we had secured Independence, and if Independence is only for the purpose of making Canada a tail of the United States' kite, we are afraid it will be a long time before it will have a majority of our people in its favor. Were the country to get all this, and as the *Globe* apparently desires, become a part and parcel of the United States, we think it would be a jump from the frying-pan of the *Globe's* bug-a-boo, the Canadian National Policy, into the fire of the protective policy of the United States, which is far more extreme than ours is at present.

Looked at from any standpoint, this political jumble is one which no one but a desperate and needy political party would ever sanction, and we trust that even if the *Globe* and its imitators do take it up, that the rank and file of the great Liberal party will repudiate its former organ, and fight for position from a sensible and patriotic platform. The day has gone past we trust, when a few *Globe* editorials can whip the party into line, and the course of Independent Liberals in supporting the Dominion Government on the National Policy, and the Ontario Government on Local questions, is one that not only reflects credit upon their backbone and common sense, but one which adds to the stability and good government of the country. Let our politicians once thoroughly understand that in order to carry the country, they have got to put forward good and patriotic measures, which independent thinkers can support, and the country will be safe from the political heelers and tricksters that have for so many years infested it and made public life a scandal and disgrace.

A BABY IN a basket was found in the corner of a rail-fence in Pennsylvania the other evening. It is supposed to have been left there by Miss Stake.