

do a repairing business and carry no stock whatever.

THE STOCK TRST.

From this it will be seen that, with the exception of class one, which everyone will readily admit is entitled to recognition, the "stock" test is the true one with which to answer the query "What is a Retail Jeweler?" The fact that such a merchant is not a practical watchmaker has nothing to do with the question at issue, but is entirely a personal matter with the merchant himself. Everyone knows that a practical workman carrying stock has always a big pull over a competitor, with an equally large stock, who has no practical knowledge of the business, and if persons of the latter class desire to invest their good money as an experiment in the watch and jewelry business, and learn from experience that all is not gold that glitters, why should they be deprived of an opportunity to purchase a little experience. Such ventures usually work their own cure, and unless the person making it is naturally adapted for the business he will very soon get tired enough of it to quit just as quickly as possible. As one of our correspondents points out if such merchants were not recognized unless they employed a watchmaker, and the business was worth anything to them, they would very soon employ one, and thus not only compete for sales but for a share of the repair work as well. We could enlarge much more on this subject but think that enough has been said by us for the present

RIEL.

Whatever may be the faults of the present government, they certainly deserve credit for their firmness in carrying out the death sentence in the case of Louis "David" Riel, the leader of two rebellions, each of which has cost Canada millions of money to put down. Riel was a dangerous man; but when to this is added the further fact that he had not only induced untutored and almost savage Indians to rise and massacre the harmless whites that dwell amongst them, but had actually participated with his own hand in the murder of Thomas Scott, surely justice and expedience alike demanded that his career should be stopped by the hangman. Now that the last act of the drama is played out, and the curtain has fallen so far as Louis Riel is concerned, it should be the endeavor of every

good and loyal citizen, (professional agitators who make a living by agitating, excepted), to try and allay the feelings of hostility between the French and English races, which this episode in our history has unfortunately engendered. While this is the duty of every loyal citizen, those who are endeavoring from mercenary or party motives, to make capital out of Riel's execution, by fanning the flame of national jealousy and animosity, incur a fearful responsibility the extent of which as yet they do not fully comprehend.

It has seemed to us a sad commentary on the patriotism of our press to see the cold-blooded manner in which some of our leading journals have handled the question of Riel's execution. The *Globe* has notably been one of the most glaring offenders and by its action has proved itself unworthy of the respect much less the support of any Canadian who has one single spark of patriotism in his composition. On this as on many questions lately it has been non-committal. While it has had many long dissertations on the iniquity of Sir John Macdonald and appeared to be quite satisfied that he at least should hang for his share in the late rebellion, it has had no decided opinion as to Riel's guilt and what his punishment should be. Its managers knew that Sir John was between the devil and the deep sea and they took care that no word or act of theirs should give him the slightest indication of what honor and the interests of the country demanded at his hands. They knew that justice and the true welfare of Canada demanded that Riel should be punished for his crimes, but they were more concerned that the premier might be able in some way to get himself out of the scrape without losing prestige, than that justice should be done in the premises. They apparently did not care for right in the matter so long as it embarrassed the government; as they themselves used to say about the *Mails* attacks on a former minister of agriculture for Ontario. "It was anything to beat McKellar."

Although they had no advice as to the disposal of Riel, and were only concerned lest the government might not hang him, now that the execution has been carried out, they are profuse in their sympathy for the late rebel and his friends. They have suddenly discovered that he was a patriot, an insane one 'tis true, but no less a patriot, and that it was a disgrace

for any civilized country to hang a crazy man, even though he were twice rebel and murderer to boot. If the government were wrong in punishing the leader of the rebellion, what arrant simpletons were our brave volunteers in risking their lives in putting down at the point of the bayonet and at a large sacrifice of valuable lives, a rebellion, that one would now infer from the *Globe's* editorials was not only just but perfectly proper. From their editorials lately we should judge that it was not Riel, Dumont, Poundmaker, Big Bear and their followers that should have been put down, but John A. and his cabinet. Instead of our brave volunteers facing the hardships of the north shore of Lake Superior, they should have taken C. P. R. palace cars to Ottawa and cleaned out the present government and put Riel and Company in their place. Such attacks as these from their standpoint may be wise ones, but we very much doubt it; they can do no possible good and can only bring the Liberal party into disrepute.

In such an emergency we think it is the bounden duty of every loyal citizen to strengthen the hands of the government in their endeavor to vindicate law and order, no matter whether they are politically in accord with them or not. Such questions should never be made political questions and the newspaper that in such a crisis seeks only the advancement of its own party to the detriment of the country should be branded as disloyal and unworthy of confidence.

For ourselves, we may say that we don't run *The Trader* on party lines. We look at all questions from a patriotic and commercial point of view and propose to let politics severely alone. We have always been and are to-day opposed to the present government in politics, but when we see them trying their best to do right, although it may be but rarely that in our opinion that they do so, we feel bound to give them any moral support that we can furnish. We believe in country before party every time, and if the party with which we have been identified for over thirty years is disposed for the sake of gaining power to seek the aid of rebels and their friends we cannot allow ourselves to go along with them. We would prefer eternal opposition for the Liberal party of Canada in preference to seeing them secure power by the aid of such disloyal allies as the friends and fellow-countrymen of Louis Riel are now