does not quite appear why such beneficence and even-handed dealing should not be extended to all alike, why farmers, or doctors, or clergymen, or lawyers for that matter should be excluded from such kindly consideration. But were one to suggest that this very righteous law extend to all classes he would probably be ridiculed, though in full view of the fact that the farmer or mechanic, who may have kindly and gratutiously aided the trader by lending his name on paper, has no recourse or " city of refuge," but is remorselessly sold out of house and home, and even after that dare not call anything his own but what may be seized ' to satisfy still pendent claims of those benevolent gentlemen who are now calling loudly at Ottawa for " The Insolvent Debtors Act." It is perhaps supposed to be sufficient solace to the unlucky farmer or non-privileged one to see his quondam friend, the discharged trader, a free man driving a few months later securely in possession of a carriage and pair. But let such minor considerations pass, there are other aspects of the subject of a more fundamental character.

Let it be admitted that a law providing for the pro rata distribution of the Assets of Insolvent Debtors is a correct thing in itself, and standing alone it is hard to deny it, for even though the creditor be as often, or oftener, the erring one as the debtor, still he ought to be protected in his just rights. Let the law provide for it, if this can be done without doing still greater wrong than loss resulting to the creditor. But this is what is conceived to be impossible, at all events until men cease to be selfish and rapacious, and then of course it will not be needed. Let us suppose then for the present that the principle involved here is admissible, yet it must be remembered that a thing may be right in itself and yet become totally wrong owing to its necessary relation to something else. For example, it is a very proper thing for a young man to get married to a lady of his choice, indeed it is a very commendable thing in itself, but if he happens to stand in the re-