

Car. II, and without claiming the former, and disclaiming the latter, has a general right, delegated by the Crown as *pater patriae*, to interfere in particular cases, for the benefit of such who are incapable to protect themselves."

The inability of infants to protect themselves cannot be set up in our Ontario Courts, where they are represented by the Official Guardian.

It is not hard to imagine a case where the solicitor, who has issued the Writ on behalf of the infant by its next friend, may be very anxious to accept a sum which may appear very inadequate in comparison with the injuries sustained by the infant, because he may have discovered evidence which renders his chances of success at the trial very remote. Under such circumstances, the Official Guardian may approve of the settlement. Counsel appear before a Judge to obtain the approval of the Court, and find the Court unwilling to approve, because of the meagerness of the amount offered. But if the Court forces disclosure of the facts it may find that the infant is entitled to nothing, on the evidence. The Court's intervention on behalf of the infant may prove detrimental to the infant.

The exercise of this ancient power of the Court seems to force the Judge into the position of advocate for the infant. In a recent case the Court was dubious as to whether the proposed settlement was adequate. Counsel for the Plaintiff could not very well say in the presence of his opponents that he would be glad to get anything at all after perusing the evidence.

When there is an officer of the Court appointed to protect the interests of all infants, would it not be well to allow him to decide finally whether or not a proposed settlement is adequate without further proceedings.

JUDGES AND POLITICS.

These two words do not seem to go well together and that which is indicated by them should, as a rule, be kept in separate compartments, and only be used together on special occasions.

Much adverse criticism was recently raised by the action of Lord Justice Carson in taking part in a debate in the House of Lords on the Irish situation. Few would deny him