

# THE PRAIRIE.

(ILLUSTRATED)

**A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF INTEREST TO ALL.**

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ERNEST BEAUFORT, Manager.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1891.

AS WE stated when the Prairie Illustrated first entered this sinful world, we are Independent in politics and we hold to ourselves the right of criticising the actions of any man, be he friend or foe. In our humble way we are friends of the government of Sir John A. Macdonald, who opened up this grand country to us who now live in it, who introduced to the world the grandest farming and ranching country on the face of the globe; who gave every encouragement to those who have connected us with the world of commerce, east and west; who by his liberal railway policy, has at last placed our securities in a high position in the leading money markets of the world. To the man who has done this, we say we owe a general support. But we do not go so far as to say that there have not been many and grave errors in the government's subsequent policy as regards the Northwest. During our short career we have by pen and pencil pointed out several serious injustices under which we labor. Our form of local government, our liquor laws, our inadequate representation in the Dominion Parliament,—all these require remedying, and unless the men we send to Ottawa have interest enough to see that our wants are carried out, we might as well be disenfranchised. We shall certainly support the men who have the confidence of the Government, as we think it is only such men who can possibly see that our many wants are supplied. But we must warn our prospective members that more must be done for the whole of the Northwest than heretofore. Our interests are continually growing, and naturally require more attention and consideration every year.

Up to the time of writing considerable uncertainty

has existed as to who the candidates will ultimately be for Alberta. Mr. D. W. Davis is out as the Government nominee; Mr. Reilly has also come out as a Conservative, but is against the Government's policy regarding the Northwest. We also hear a rumor that Mr. F. Oliver, of Edmonton, will stand as an Independent! Seeing that Mr. Oliver is probably as rabid a Grit as there is up here, we fail to see where his independence can come in. Everyone knows, on all party matters, which way Mr. Oliver's vote and influence is directed. We don't want and won't have a man who would overthrow the Conservative party. The cry of independence won't wash, and we think there are few Conservatives, if any, who will be lead away by it.

We want a man who will urge upon the Government a policy which will flood this country with desirable immigration; a policy which will give us good roads, bridges were required, and railways. Is it feasible to suppose that an avowed Grit is likely to be this man? We certainly want a man who will be fearlessly independent when any emergency calls for a display of independence, but he must be a man who will support the general policy of the Conservative government, but who will first and foremost always manfully uphold the requirements of the Northwest, both in and out of the House.

This is the sort of man we want, and when we definitely hear who is in the field, the man we believe can best be trusted with Alberta's vast interests, will receive our loyal and energetic support. Our artist this week depicts Messrs. Davis and Reilly, both proclaiming that they are Sir John's prophets. Next week we shall proclaim which is our prophet.



AT SUNRISE all good Moslems turn to the east and with their faces toward Mecca utter their devotions. The two gentlemen at present soliciting the support of the electors of Alberta, to send them to Ottawa (the Mecca of all politicians), are uttering their devotions to Sir John, and only differ from their oriental brethren in the fact that they don't agree as to who is the prophet—Mr. Davis says he is; Mr. Reilly says he is. However, instead of entering on a bloody war, as would be the case in the Orient, we trust the little difference will be quietly settled at the polls on March 5th.