

THE PRAIRIE.

(ILLUSTRATED)

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ERNEST BEAUFORT, Manager.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1891.

A MEETING of the directors of the Amateur Athletic Association was held on Monday evening last, at which there were present the following directors: Dr. Lafferty (in the chair), and Messrs. Braithwaite, Thompson, Christie and Stone. The secretary was requested to communicate with the heads of the various clubs in town, with respect to the use of the Association grounds for the coming season. We trust no time will be lost by these clubs in making terms with the Association. Spring is upon us, and before many days cricket, lacrosse, baseball and other sports and pastimes should be in full swing. It is high time that the different clubs got their houses in order, so as not to let the season be half through before any organization is completed. The Amateur Athletic Association deserves all the public encouragement and assistance that can be given it. It was a piece of rare forethought and wisdom on the part of those gentlemen who were instrumental in acquiring the fine open space of ground which the Amateur Athletic Association now possess. The full benefit of their forethought will not perhaps be appreciated for some time to come, for open spaces are now comparatively plentiful; but what will it be in another five or six years? The town will then be so built up that our cricket clubs, our baseball clubs, and others will probably have to go a mile or two out of town to find a piece of suitable ground. Then the present action of the Amateur Athletic Association will be appreciated at its true worth and to its fullest extent. The desire of the directors of the Association is that their grounds should be of universal benefit. They wish to foster and encourage every branch of athletic exercise, and

they are anxious to make their grounds as attractive as possible to the public, and also as suitable as possible to the various requirements of cricket, baseball, lacrosse and athletics generally. This cannot be done without the incurring of some considerable expense. A man will have to be engaged to prepare and attend to the ground; water will have to be laid on, a pavillion erected, running track laid out, and other work done, all of which means expense. Now this expense has to be incurred for the benefit of the clubs themselves, and entirely on their behalf; and the Association derive no profit nor revenue to meet these annual expenses beyond the amounts subscribed by the various clubs for the benefits they receive from the Association. Under these circumstances it certainly behoves those who themselves take an active interest in athletic games, as well as those who have at heart the welfare of the rising generation, to assist to the utmost of their ability any movement such as that which is now being carried on and developed by the Calgary Amateur Athletic Association.



REPORTS have been current for some time of leprosy among the Chinese on the Pacific Coast, and as yet no news of any step being taken to isolate the disease has come to hand. That we, a Christian and enlightened people, priding ourselves on our advanced state of civilization, can allow this rumor to pass without taking steps to ascertain the truth, is beyond comprehension. Leprosy! the unclean disease of the ancients, the most filthy, humiliating, corrupt affliction which can overtake a human being, is reported to be gaining ground on our western shores! Can we, as men, allow this horror to breed amongst us without an effort to extinguish it, and bring down upon our memory the curses of the afflicted in generations to come? There is but one answer.

OUR readers can be assured from the report of the meeting of the Calgary Rod and Gun Club that that body is alive, and does not exist in name only. Associations of this kind do a vast amount of good, for they not only benefit the whole community, when their operations are conducted by practical and unselfish men, but they afford much pleasure to the individual members.