

# THE PRAIRIE.

(ILLUSTRATED)

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF INTEREST TO ALL.

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ERNEST BEAUFORT, Manager.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1891.

WE cannot but refer to the late election of directors of the Calgary General Hospital, nor help expressing our astonishment at the result of that election, astonishment shared by a large number of our townspeople. It is a matter of the greatest regret that Judge Rouleau, Bishop Pinkham and Mr. Samson were left off the Board. The first-named gentleman is the leading official in the Territories, and the fact of his being a Roman Catholic gives rise to a suspicion that the question of creed formed a factor in the election. This, we happen to know, is the Judge's belief, but it is to be sincerely trusted that it has no foundation. It would be sufficient to damn any general hospital that was ever started. Even more astonishing is the rejection of Bishop Pinkham, for several reasons. He has had considerable experience, he is one of the cleverest business men in Manitoba or the Northwest, and Mrs. Pinkham was undoubtedly the indirect means of starting the present hospital—and yet Bishop Pinkham is rejected! Then, again, Mr. Samson. He represented and very worthily represented the ranching interests on the Board. Not only this, but he personally canvassed and raised, comparatively speaking, a large sum of money for the hospital. Yet this gentleman is rejected and the ranchers and farmers, rather an important body in the Northwest, are unrepresented. A very considerable amount of feeling has been caused, and we say again—it is no good beating about the bush—that it is a most regrettable affair. We have no wish to cast any reflection on the members of the present board, a number of whom feel deeply the loss of these three gentlemen, whose usefulness and fitness for the office

no one can deny. We only hope that the general public will not allow any personal feeling to retard the good work the hospital has commenced to do. Although not on the Board, yet we feel sure that the gentlemen we have mentioned will use all their influence, which is by no means slight, to forward the interests of this noble work.

WE WONDER how many times the local daily papers have called attention to the "disgraceful condition of the Mission bridge," and we cannot say that the attention paid to this small matter makes anybody much in love with our form of government. We are told that our local members have no funds at their disposal to save a man breaking his neck. Our artist graphically depicts what will happen one of these days, if something more than nailing a piece of wood over a hole is not very soon done, and then when the man's widow sues those responsible, we are afraid the cry of "no funds" will hardly wash. Mr. Cayley, we understand, has written to His Honor about the matter—we cannot but fancy that we have heard of something of the kind before, but it *must* have been imagination, or of course the necessary repairs would have at once been carried out. However, we *hope* that this time our junior member's appeal will be met with prompt action.



IT is very certain that Sir John promised last year that Parliament should be called before February, it is also certain that February is not here yet; but, in view of its extremely close proximity, our Familiar takes the liberty of jogging up the Premier's memory on this point. There is no doubt that the coming session will prove most eventful to the Territories, as well as to the Dominion at large, and if the Government delays in taking measures to convene Parliament till after the promised date, it will take some pretty sound explanations to dispel the dissatisfaction which will be stirred up throughout the country.

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FRANK MARIAGGI, Proprietor.