

THE PRAIRIE.

(ILLUSTRATED)

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF INTEREST TO ALL.

THE PRAIRIE (Illustrated) is published every Saturday morning, for the Proprietors, by T. B. Braden, Stephen Avenue.

SUBSCRIPTION :

Per Annum \$5.00
Per Annum (in advance) . . . \$3.50

As THE PRAIRIE (Illustrated) is the only illustrated paper west of Winnipeg, its columns will be a valuable medium for advertising.

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ERNEST BEAUFORT, Manager.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1891.

THE contest for the representation of Alberta in the Dominion Parliament has narrowed itself down to two candidates—Mr. D. W. Davis, the Government nominee, and the chosen candidate of the Calgary Conservative Association, and Mr. James Reilly, nominated by himself and the chosen candidate of himself, as far as the general public know. Mr. Reilly does not believe in requisitions, as he stated during the Calgary municipal elections, and we suppose Mr. Reilly was so encouraged at the result of coming out unsolicited, that he hopes for the same luck this time. But Mr. Reilly will probably find that running against the government and against the wishes of his own party is a very different matter. Mr. Reilly speaks of his political training, which is undoubtedly a very high qualification in a candidate, but we must plead ignorance as to where this political training was obtained. Was it during his term as schoolmaster? Was it while persuing the calling of architect and builder, or was it during his long tenure of the Royal Hotel? We pause for a reply.

WHAT on earth does Mr. Reilly mean by "foreign lease holding companies"? This is one of those beautifully vague, meaningless expressions, which, when taken hold of, scrutinized and thoughtfully examined, is reduced to ashes. Take away the gilt-edged language which envelopes the paragraph we refer to and there is nothing left. We will not ask Mr. Reilly to explain the whole passage, we will merely take one word. What does this candidate, in his address to the electors, mean when he uses the word "foreign"? Is it possible he does not

know himself? He cannot possibly be referring to Englishmen, because at a recent meeting of an English society in town, he spoke of them in the most glowing and complimentary terms, and as the men who were his chief patrons in the days gone by. Does he mean Irishmen or Scotchmen? we think not. Does he mean Frenchmen? we are sure he does not. Then who on earth does Mr. Reilly mean? Again we pause for a reply.

NATURALLY the *Tribune* is very much annoyed that the Grit party in Alberta has no man strong enough to fight Mr. Davis. We feel deeply for its annoyance, and regret the cause of it, as such a conflict would show that party how weak they are in Alberta. But if the *Tribune* is annoyed, it really should not introduce "swear words" into its otherwise very respectable columns. It doesn't look well, and might contaminate the minds of some of its Sunday School readers. Then again it is not a dignified way of referring to a large and influential section of the community, as "the two or three who style themselves the Conservative party of Calgary, and, indeed, of Alberta." The latter part of the sentence is of course a false assertion, but it is with the first part we wish to deal. Does the *Tribune* call Senator Loughheed, Col. Irvine, Major Stewart, Messrs. P. McCarthy, T. Stone, A. D. Braithwaite, T. N. Christie, J. L. Bowen, J. Livingstone, J. Maw, H. S. Cayley, M. L. A., and some 20 or 30 other prominent citizens of Calgary, who were present at Friday's meeting of the Conservative Association, "the two or three who style themselves the Conservative party of Calgary"? Rather a contemptuous way of referring to a party, which probably contains quite as much honesty, intelligence and wealth as the Grit party,

AN ATTEMPT has been made in certain quarters to make political capital out of the silence of the Lethbridge *Semi-Weekly News* on the elections. This exponent of the sentiments of the people of Lethbridge has spoken at last, and with no uncertain sound. The editorial on the subject says that Mr. Davis' "platform is comprehensive enough to satisfy the electors of Alberta, and ensure the re-election of Mr. Davis for another term." Further it says: "Mr. Reilly cannot be counted, under any circumstances, a strong man, and his defeat is a foregone conclusion." These are the sentiments of the people of Lethbridge, which knocks sky-high the idiotic assertions that that town is going solid for Mr. Reilly. The article in question concludes as follows:—"Our advice to the electors of Lethbridge