

Treasury, they demand that the Provincial Governments should impose direct taxation. The *Montreal Gazette* has formulated this programme in full terms every time that there was a question of the readjustment of the subsidy. Listen to what it said in 1883, when a proposition had been submitted to the Legislature of Quebec by the Mousseau Government :

"What, it seems to us, the Quebec Government ought to do, if economies sufficient to restore an equilibrium between revenue and expenditure cannot be effected, is to divest itself of some of the charges now devolving on it and place them upon the municipalities, as has been done in Ontario. A larger proportion of the cost of the administration of justice, of education and of the maintenance of charities and asylums should be defrayed by the municipalities. Sooner or later, that policy must of necessity be adopted, and the sooner the better for all concerned."

Is that clear enough ?

There, gentlemen, there is the whole policy of the Tories to improve the position of our Provincial Governments, now become untenable. Direct taxation ! and nothing but direct taxation ! Bring them back to power and they will apply that favorite remedy, curing all ills and easing all purses. This draconian policy, they have already applied it to the Province of Quebec ; they have imposed a tax upon *exhibits*, a tax upon commercial corporations ; they wished to impose their notorious tax upon deeds and contracts, and they would probably have levied more taxes, if the national movement had not expelled them from power.

Well, on our part, we, Liberals, will not have this direct taxation ; we scorn this panacea of Blue politics and before we come to that, we will make use of every means which wise statesmanship can suggest. With what grace could we go, for instance, and extort each year a few dollars of a direct tax from the farmer, when it is generally acknowledged that in place of giving, he must receive from the Government, in order to enable him to introduce, into his agricultural operations, the improvements now rendered necessary by the competition with the farmers of other Provinces and other countries ?

What chance will we have of bringing to the country a sound and profitable immigration, if we were obliged to show to the emigrants the bugbear of