

future and that with this new contingent of permanent receipts, we will be enabled through the liberal encouragement of education, agriculture, colonization and public works, to give to the progress of the province a fresh impetus calculated to uphold the rank we should occupy and to secure the influence we should wield in the Confederation.

The maintenance of our Provincial institutions will be permanently secured and we shall have no reason to fear a Legislative Union, which might bring on its train many grave embarrassments for our provincial finances, or direct taxation. It is here that lies the greatest danger to our local institutions and it is to avert this danger that we demand a readjustment of the Federal subsidy and our independence in money matters.

FINAL ARRANGEMENT

To give to all the Provinces a guarantee that the compact shall never be violated and that no parts of Confederation shall obtain special advantages to the detriment of others, and especially to secure Provincial autonomy above all attempt against it by means of special subsidies, we have enacted a resolution declaring "the amounts so to be paid and granted yearly by the Dominion to the Provinces respectively to be declared by Imperial enactment to be final and absolute, and not within the power of the Federal Parliament to alter, add to, or vary."

With such a law passed by the Imperial Parliament, we have nothing to fear for provincial autonomy; the moment that our financial position shall be secured in a stable manner, in accordance with the legitimate wants or exigencies of the local legislatures, there shall no longer be any serious danger for the relative independence of the provinces, which, thus assured of a sufficient revenue, will easily find the means to defend themselves against the encroachments of the federal power.

This is well understood by the partisans of federal centralisation and legislative union; this also explains why they so furiously oppose themselves to the readjustment of the federal subsidy. They will readily admit that the actual revenues of the Provinces are not sufficient for the legitimate wants of the Provinces; but in place of agreeing to remedy this insufficiency by calling upon the Federal