

ther, in the same speech, declared his belief that our elementary education lacks "method" and that the question of preparation and better salary ought to receive prompt attention.

The whole speech, as a practical attempt in the right direction is one which ought to be perused by every teacher and voter in the Province. The following words of Mr. Marchand show how deeply he realizes our needs and we know, by experience, that what Mr. Marchand says he will do. His words are no election promises.

"The imperative duty laid upon us, as legislators, then is to provide effectually for the raising of the standard of our elementary education, in furnishing the necessary resources and rendering it accessible to all, even those of small means. That is to say that the legislative appropriations for the common schools ought to be increased as far as our financial condition will permit, and that on the other hand the necessary expenses imposed upon families for the instruction of their children ought to be reduced to the lowest possible figure.

"In order to forward the last object it appears urgent that, under the direction of the Council of Public Instruction, a series of CLASS BOOKS, AS UNIFORM AS POSSIBLE may be adopted and furnished to the scholars in all the school districts, so that in going from one school to another they may not be obliged by frequent changes, especially in great industrial centres, to go to the heavy expense of providing afresh."

So far as Mr. Flynn's plan is concerned it much too disingenuous for our liking, it has all the appearance of a thing done perforce and by no means willingly. It is crude and "looks as it did abruptly

start out of the ground without expectation or preparation," a rude unprofitable mass. If money has to be given then the sum is inadequate, miserably so, and as there seem to be millions to throw away, to start economising in the stunted and gasping Elementary Education of the Province denotes neither patriotism, nor staunch determination to reform a palpable wrong that is being done to the youth—the future of the land.

Alongside of Mr. Flynn's election talk let us set the concluding words of Mr. Marchand's speech. "IF, IN THE NEAR FUTURE, IT FALLS TO OUR LOT TO PRESIDE OVER THE AFFAIRS OF THE PROVINCE WE INTEND TO DEVOTE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION."

These are the words of a man who, for honor and integrity, stands as a model public man in our midst; the education of our children, the shaping of the young, so that the future may be purer and nobler than the present, can fitly be left to the guidance of such a leader who is himself an example of what we hope the betterment of our educational method will, under Divine help, produce.

The following table gives the percentage of adult illiteracy in the various Provinces in the Dominion, according to the census of 1891:

	Per cent.
1. Ontario	8.68
2. Manitoba	11.24
3. Prince Edward Island	16.37
4. Nova Scotia	17.23
5. New Brunswick	19.24
6. British Columbia	25.06
7. Quebec	31.96

Tories Refuse Information.

Nothing during the last five years has been so marked as the earnest endeavors of the Government to keep all its doings in the dark. The Liberals have continually asked for returns, to explain some one or other of the scandals connected with the Administration. As may be supposed, a great many of the awkward ones were voted down. Others were passed, and the Government never presented the returns; that is, it promised, and broke its promise. Some returns were

presented in writing; of those absolutely printed only fifty more than was necessary for the House were printed. The reason of this is clear; the elections were at hand, men wish to see the Government answer to some important question, e.g., how O'Sullivan piles up his thousands and what he does in return; of course no copies are to be got. The supply is exhausted, and thus the returns cannot be got—at least by a Liberal. It is no use the Government saying this is due to economy; thousands of Beaubien's