

The Cotinental and Anti-Continental Policies.—

The great and pressing question of the day is that of commercial relations and of public works in connection with them. There are two policies, either of which a statesman may take without forfeiting that title, but between which every statesman is called upon to choose, and which may be called the Continental and the Anti-Continental. The Anti-Continental policy is that of the present government. It is the commercial corollary of Jingoism. Its cardinal principle, frankly enunciated the other day by its ambassador to England, is that the people of the United States are to be viewed and treated commercially as "a hostile or, at least an unfriedly people." and that Canada is to be cut off as much as possible from the continent inhabited by them and to which she geographically belongs.

It is the policy of a party here identical with the Tory party in England, and endeavouring, in the interest of Toryism, to create a power antagonistic to democracy on this continent. It regards Canada not as a community of the New World with interests and a future of her own, but as an "auxiliary kingdom" to be governed by a quasi-aristocracy of Knights. In commerce, as in everything else, it shuns the contagion of the Republic. Its instruments are the political railroads destined to weld together Provinces widely separated by nature, and to prevent their inhabitants from using the natural routes, which lie through American territory; a sharp customs line severing Canada from American markets; commercial treaties to connect her with other parts of the Globe; and, if possible, an Imperial Zollverein.

Its adherents contemplate, not with unmixed horror, an actual war with the United States, and advocate the diversion of roads from the line of trade, as well as the increase of military expenditure, with that view. Setting aside any question as to the general object, which is a matter of opinion, this policy is proving itself to be