

advantages or imposing on her heavy burdens. Let the Knights say what they will; let conventional opinion applaud the Anti-American eloquence of Governor-Generals on the stump as loudly as it may, there is evidently nothing in the Continental policy repugnant to any strong or deeply-seated sentiments in the breasts of the commercial classes, or in those of the people. No Canadian man of business ever refuses dealings with Americans which he thinks will be profitable to himself. Canadian banks have their branches and loan tens of millions in the United States. The management and ownership of the railway system is coming daily to be more in common. When the road from the Maritime Provinces to Quebec through Maine is opened, it will be seen that shippers and passengers are not disposed to describe a vast curve to the northwards for the purpose of maintaining a military line, or of avoiding temporary contact with a nation which has no Knights. As to the people, they show their intense hatred of Republicanism, and their readiness to sacrifice their material interests to its extinction, by migrating into its domain whenever they have the slightest material inducement to do so. They are now flocking to the States by thousands: four thousand went from one Province in April. Even such of them as are farmers go in greater numbers to Minnesota and Dakota than to the territories which we are spending so many millions to incorporate. While all this money is being squandered, and all these risks are being incurred for the purpose of securing perfect and everlasting separation, the people of the two countries are quietly blending with each other, and if we may believe the current statements, a sixth of the Canadian nation is already on the south of the line.

—Blame can hardly be cast on the Government for pursuing a course which Imperialists must believe to be the best. Certainly the Opposition cannot throw stones at them. For the Opposition itself, when in office under its last leader, committed itself to the Pacific Railway undertaking in its whole extent,