

undertaking and push it on, though patriots, are Imperial patriots, politicians whose aims and sentiments, like their knight-hoods, are distinctively Imperial. Let them get the Imperial country to grant the money for railroads through the Rocky Mountains, and round the north of Lake Superior. All will then be well. The money it ought to be, not a guarantee, which is little better than an illusion and a snare.

Our statesmen find themselves compelled to put up with the natural railway route to Manitoba through the territory of the United States. This ought to make them conscious that the time has come for choosing definitely between two commercial policies. Are we to regard the inhabitants of the rest of the continent commercially as enemies, and to fight them; or are we to regard them as partners in the continent and to share with them, and when circumstances render it desirable, construct in concert with them, the highways of trade? In a war, we should contend against a far longer purse; and the object would all the time be slipping away from us, for whether we look to banks, telegraphs, railways, or any other department, we see that whatever may be the theory of the politicians, commercial union is practically going on. But the man who takes either course, and pursues it, consistently, may be a statesman. He who halts between the two, incurring enormous expense, yet swerving from his mark, constructing a gigantic railway at a distance, on the principle of hostility, yet content to leave his only access to it dependent on good-will, is surely undeserving of the name.

—Is the condition of Canada such that she can be launched without fear into boundless expenditure for a remote or sentimental object? The *Journal of Commerce*, in an article on the Financial Position, tells us that the country is “annually piling up a gigantic debt;” that it is “drifting into bankruptcy;” that “the day of reckoning is assuredly near;” and these, if the world is not mistaken, are the words of a man who is personally responsible for the situation. The limits of indirect taxation have been reached, yet the deficit is not filled; and the Finance