

the road. They are, in fact, retiring from their old position with regard to the whole enterprise, under cover of a heavy fire ostensibly directed against the terms of the Agreement. It is equally clear that the members of the new Syndicate, though they necessarily tender for the whole line, would readily concur in a limitation of their project, leaving the road along the North Shore of Lake Superior to be built by the inhabitants of that region. With sure though silent step, the Continental policy, in matters commercial and economical, gains ground; and the only question is, how much more money will be wasted on the rival policy before the balance of public sentiment decisively turns. Here is a great Imperial enterprise which is forever to cut off the Dominion, commercially, from the rest of the Continent. To whom is the execution of it committed? To an American Railway Company!

But we wish to look at the question from other points of view as well as our own, and to do justice to the Government, whose general policy, though it runs altogether counter to our convictions, is not only the natural policy of U. E. Loyalists, but has up to this time been unquestionably endorsed and adopted by the other party. Nobody doubts the ability of the Prime Minister, or that of the Minister of Railways. Nobody, who is not a violent partisan, can doubt that in making the Agreement they did their best for the country. The charitable supposition that the Minister of Railways was bought by the Syndicate seems to have commended itself to the mind of Sir Richard Cartwright; but Sir Richard is in a state of high displeasure; witness his Bill enacting pains and penalties for problematical offences against a Company not yet in existence. That such men as Mr. George Stephen, and his colleagues, have been guilty of such infamy as the corruption of a Minister, we will believe when we see the proof; but we are not prepared to believe it on the mere word of prejudiced partisans in Parliament, much less on the authority of the *Globe*. By the *Globe*, Sir John Macdonald is accused of covert Annexationism, and would be accused of burglary if there were reason to hope