

economically impracticable. It condemns Canada to a commercial atrophy, the inevitable effect of severance from her own continent, and commits her to an expenditure on Public Works which, especially when suffering from that atrophy, she is wholly unable to bear.

The Continental policy, on the other hand, is akin to the political spirit which has just triumphed over Jingoism in England. It accepts for Canada the position of a community of the New World, though bound by the strongest tie of affection to her parent in the Old World, and refuses to sacrifice the interest of her people in any way to that of the European Reaction. It regards the American Republic not as an object of everlasting hostility, but as a friend and neighbour. It welcomes partnership with her in all the commercial advantages of this continent, and in the construction and use of its necessary highways. It abjures the idea of wasting the substance of the Canadian people in works otherwise unnecessary and unremunerative, for the purpose of forcing commerce out of her natural routes, in order to save her from political contagion. It cherishes a sound financial position as the only real guarantee for general independence.

A war with the United States it refuses to contemplate as a ground for denying to Canada great 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: