

scarcely amount to eight millions, less, indeed, than would be required to cut a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, as is proposed, entailing, perhaps, upon England, some future war, to maintain the rights of her subjects in using such canal, the expenses of which would build a dozen railways; a war that might leave England enfeebled, exhausted, and depressed. The completion of the proposed Railway through British possessions, would find her regenerated with new life, her impulses re-awakened, her energies strengthened, and advancing with a rapidity and vigor that would astonish destiny herself.

The distance from the head of Lake Superior to the Pacific being about 1,500 miles, then allow for detours and crossing the Rocky Mountains, say 250 miles, making in all 1750.

To construct such a road would cost about £5,000 per mile, making a total of £8,750,000.

From the point where it might start upon Lake Superior to Lac la Pluie, would be the most expensive portion upon this side of the Rocky Mountains; from Lac la Pluie onward, the land is of the best quality for the production of food for man, well watered, covered with rich grass, &c. The farmer wants but the plough, the seed, the scythe, and the sickle; at the above rate, ten miles of railway would cost £50,000. Five miles by sixty contain 192,000 acres, the whole of this sold at say 5s. per acre, would not produce the sum required for the bare expense of building, thereby showing that the request for 60 miles is not unreasonable.

Without directing attention to the trade carried on throughout the Pacific, by France, by Holland, and other continental nations, and also by the United States, let us look only to England, it will afford some idea of the incalculable advantages which such a communication would open out through this country.

Imports into Great Britain from the following ports:

From Bengal, Madras and Bombay, as taken from <i>Hunt's Merchant's Magazine</i> for March, 1843, including all to continental Europe, and North and South America, annually,.....	£12,000,000
Less for the amount to France and America,...	2,489,340
	£ 9,510,660