

sea without breaking bulk, while the Danubian boats will easily steam from the lower Danube to the heart of Austria. It will be hard to overestimate the political and commercial importance of this triumph over the natural difficulties which have so long hindered traffic on this great European waterway.

ACROSS THE ISTHMUS.—The Nicaragua Canal will be 170 miles long from ocean to ocean. There will be 16 miles of excavation on the east side, 11½ miles on the west, ¾ mile for six locks, making a total of 28 miles. Free navigation will be had in the San Juan River for 64½ miles, and in Lake Nicaragua for 56½ miles. There will be space for vessels to pass each other in opposite directions in all parts except in the rock cuttings. The time of passage is estimated at 28 hours. The saving in distance effected by the canal, not

only for all American ports but for European and Asiatic as well, will be great, the route from New York to San Francisco being shortened by 4,760 miles, and that from San Francisco to Liverpool by 7,508 miles. Meantime the Tehuantepec railway, spanning the Isthmus of Tehuantepec from Coatzacoalcos on the Mexican Gulf to Salina Cruz on the Pacific, and having the same object as the Nicaragua Canal, is being rapidly built. The road is 207 miles in length, sixty-seven miles of which have already been constructed by an American company and purchased by the Mexican Government, and the remainder of which, it is said, will be completed within eighteen months. These two routes, one water and the other rail, will furnish commerce all the facilities it requires, draw the wealth of the Pacific ports to the great centres on the Atlantic seaboard, and stimulate and develop trade and industry in all directions.

PUBLIC OPINION.

"DIVIDE THE LIVING CHILD IN TWO."—Let there be a division of labour, say we. Let the school impart knowledge and train the pupil to think; let the church attend to morals and religious instruction.—*The Chronicle and News* (Kingston).

THE IDEAL COMMUNITY.—"In the ideal community, holiness to the Lord will be written on school and college, on commerce, on mines and manufactures, on everything where man labours and learns, where habits are formed and character is developed."—*The Rev. Principal Grant of Queen's*.

POLITICAL CONTROL.—With the best intentions in the world, a Minister of Education who is a member of

a party Government cannot always do what is best in the public interest. If the principle of political control is a hurtful one, as applied to a university, it is a hundredfold more so in the case of the public schools.—*The Manitoba Free Press* (Winnipeg).

SUPPORT THE TEACHER.—Teachers sometimes make mistakes in dealing with the pupils, but in the major number of instances the suspended scholar is in the wrong, and deserves no sympathy from home. If he gets it, so much the worse for himself when he comes to leave school and mix with the world.—*Western Advertiser* (London).

TRUE EDUCATION.—"The object of true education," Mr. Ruskin says,