

Pacific Ocean, from the Western Coast of British Columbia to Asia. The great object which the scheme had in view was the establishment of an unbroken chain of telegraphic communications between England and Japan, China, India, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, directly through Canada, thus connecting telegraphically all the great British possessions in every quarter of the globe without passing through Europe.

The accompanying memorandum, dated London, Nov. 20, 1882, together with the documents submitted by the Secretary of State to the Canadian Parliament on the 20th February of the same year, will recall to your recollection the important public objects which the scheme had in view, and the efforts then made to carry it out. You are aware that through various causes these efforts proved unsuccessful; but the time which has elapsed has in no way lessened the importance of the project, or rendered it more difficult of accomplishment.

The political events which have so frequently assumed a threatening attitude in Europe, the difficulties which are never entirely absent in Egypt, point to the constant danger of interruption to existing communications by the Red Sea, and the immense importance of securing an independent line of telegraph removed from all Eastern complications. The projected line, extending from England through Canada to the Pacific coast, in the Province of British Columbia, and thence across the Pacific to Asia and the Australian Provinces, would supply an independent line of communication so much desired, and in so doing would indirectly, but it is held very materially, strengthen the military and naval power of Great Britain, while it would directly promote the highest interests of every one of the great Colonial possessions.

Within the present year an overland line of telegraph will be completed along the route of the Canadian Pacific Railway, thus spanning the American continent, and there are a number of electric cables in operation across the Atlantic from England to Canada. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have expressed a desire to facilitate the despatch of through telegraphic business