

The map at once attracts attention; it shows The World on Mercator's Projection, and the "lines of communication that would result from the carrying out of the suggested British Colonial Railway between the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean." When the red lines of proposed routes are examined, the involuntary tendency is to look for the familiar words "published by the Canadian Pacific Railway"; as not only are there steamer lines from Liverpool to Halifax, but, also from Victoria to the Sandwich Islands, to Japan, to China, to the Carolines, to New South Wales, and to New Zealand, while the overland route from Halifax to Victoria is about identical with the present Short Line. The Major writes throughout in a lively and hopeful strain of the great national work, which shall open the shortest road to the most extensive regions of wealth ever before at the command of any nation in the world, (not regions of gold, but for commerce and industry), so that at no future period, (within at least the imagination of man), will Great Britain have to complain either of too great a population for her soil, or too small a market for her labour. The text selected is more than justified by the event, and is this quotation from Dr. Lardner, 1840. "Let these, who discard speculations, like these, as wild and improbable, recur to the state of public opinion, at no very remote period, on the subject of Steam Navigation.

"Within the memory of persons not yet past the meridian of life, the possibility of traversing by steam engines, the channels and seas that surround and intersect these islands, was regarded as the dream of enthusiasts."

Major Carmichael-Smyth's attention appears to have been drawn to the subject, through meeting Messrs. Fairbanks, Howe and Haliburton (no insignificant names, as he remarks) on a voyage to England, where their mission was to wait upon the Colonial Minister—point out to him the necessity and importance of steam communication from the mother country to her children in the West, and plead the cause of Halifax. The whole pamphlet shews great research