

**ROUTE TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN.**

A channel of communication through the isthmus of Darien, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, has long occupied the attention of philosophers, but it was reserved for the present day—this age of spirit, improvement and commercial enterprise—to achieve the magnificent project.

The undertaking with all its honour is now fully before the people of two worlds, and ere long the efforts of some conspicuous individual will be crowned with success. Happy the man who shall bequeath such a boon to posterity.

The point where the waters of the two oceans should mingle has been variously designated; indeed, we are informed by Robinson, in his Memoirs of the Mexican Revolution, that nine different routes have been pointed out; we shall confine our remarks to those three which at this moment engage the public attention, and which are, in fact, all that are feasible.

1. Route by the Atrato. A communication can be effected by making a canal from the head waters of the Atrato, a fine navigable river falling into the Gulf of Darien, in lat. 8, and the river St. Juan de Chiramba which falls into a bay of the same name, in the Pacific ocean, in lat. 4. The point of junction would be at about 400 miles from the Atlantic, and about 250 from the Pacific. About 15 miles of the river Atrato, or rather the Quito, which flows into the Atrato, would require a few locks, but not many, as the current of the river is only, in the dry season, about one mile per hour. Twenty miles too of the St. Juan would require locking, leaving an intervening space of level land of only four miles and a half to cut thro'. The rivers Atrato, Quito, and St. Juan de Chiramba are free from every sort of obstruction until we reach the points where the locking becomes necessary; and there is depth enough on the Atlantic side for vessels drawing seven, and on the Pacific, twenty feet of water. The rivers flow through a country abounding with the most magnificent forests of mahogany, dye woods, and other valuable timber, and the only disadvantageous circumstance, is, that the mouth of the Atrato is obstructed with a bar, upon which there is only seven feet of water. We should, however, not despair of human ingenuity devising some means to remedy this impediment.

Nature seems to have designed this for the passage. The frowning Andes are here for a moment lost, and in obedience to the will of Providence and the wants of man, seem here to have defiled, that commerce may march from the old world to the new. It is a fact no less curious than true, that a canal did formerly exist in this spot. About the year 1745, a priest of Citira, with the assistance of the Indians, opened this same communication known by the name of the Raspadura canal, thro' which loaded canoes passed; but the jealous policy of the Spanish Government caused it to be closed, and prohibited, under severe penalties, any attempt to re-open it. The remains of this canal are visible to the present hour, and the fact is mentioned by Humboldt, Bonnyycastle, and Robinson. We derive this information from a gentleman now in this city, who has resided twelve years in Colombia, and who has travelled over every part of the route from sea to sea. The utmost confidence may of course be reposed in his statements; he has, moreover, constructed a map in which the entire tract of the country is accurately laid down; it may be seen at our office.

In 1821 the same gentleman applied to the Government of Colombia for permission to open this communication at his own expense, with exclusive privileges for one hundred years. The Congress passed a vote in favour of the application, but it was objected to by Bolivar, on the ground that it might afford facilities to the enemy. The applicant was, however, desired to renew his proposals at the peace, for a term somewhat less than 100 years, which he is now about to do, and nothing, we believe, will defeat his object, but the fact of the Government, which is not improbable undertaking the business itself.

2. Route to Lake Nicaragua. This is a route which a company in England has undertaken, and which has a bill now before Parliament for its incorporation. It traverses the central provinces of Guatemala, and may be traced in few words. It commences at the mouth of the river St. Juan, which falls into the Atlantic in lat 10 43; ascends the St. Juan to Lake Nicaragua, whence that river takes its rise; through this lake to Lake Leon, and from Lake Leon (a distance of only fifteen miles) to the Pacific. Easy and plausible as this may appear, we are constrained to say that a ship channel by this route is almost impracticable, and the subscribers to the stock in England will most assuredly be the victims of their own credulity, and the knavery of the projectors. The Gentleman before alluded to, assures us that lakes Nicaragua and Leon are at the level calculation 1000 feet above the level of the sea. He has passed up the St. Juan

from its mouth to the lakes, a distance of 90 miles, and describes it as a series of shoals and rapids precipitated through a deep and rocky ravine. The statements in Robinson's work before mentioned, are egregiously incorrect not only in relation to this route, but to the others also. This information, however, he candidly admits, is drawn from the testimony of others, and gives it with that qualification, and we are free to bear tribute to his great zeal in behalf of a measure fraught with so much advantage to the whole human family.

3. Route by the Guasacualco.—This is the route which the Mexican Government have offered in the public prints of this country, to receive proposals for performing by contract. It is situated within the Mexican dominions, and commences at the mouth of the river Guasacualco or Huasacual, which falls into the Atlantic in Lat. 18 30, at the bottom of the gulf of Vera Cruz. This river is to be ascended as far as practicable when the cutting is to be commenced, and to be carried through ravines over to the bay of Tehuantepec, upon the Pacific, which is in Lat. 15 30.

This tract of country, called the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, is about 125 miles wide. Upon this Isthmus is the mountain called Chililo, or La Guineata, from whose summit in a clear day both oceans are, it is said, to be distinctly seen. We cannot speak with any certainty as to the practicability of this route. It undoubtedly appears the best when looking at the map, but Robinson's work would lead us to suppose it rather mountainous.

From what has been said the reader will perceive, that there is very little to apprehend from the old notions of turning the Gulf Stream into the Pacific, thereby draining the West-Indies, leaving bare Florida, and divers other mishaps. The persons who invent these theories, seem to have acted upon the erroneous supposition that a trench could be dug from sea to sea, and suffer the current to do the rest, without once reflecting that such a plan would defeat itself by creating shoals and sand bars altogether incompatible with the free navigation of the passage.

The use of locks will set all such dangers at naught, and we may safely acquit the canal, be they made wherever they may, of any such mischievous consequences, as well as the advocates of the antiquated doctrine of any incidental attempts upon the integrity of the element which flows in them.

**CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL.**

The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal is a scene of great activity and diligence. It is excavated by sections on private contracts with the general overseer—a job comprehending usually a quarter of a mile in length and 12 feet deep. Near the Buck Tavern is the deep cut, through the apex of the hill which rises gradually from both waters. Its depth there is to be 70 feet, and the width on the surface about 200 feet—the regular width of the canal is forty feet. Near the Buck a bridge is to be erected on 20 feet abutments rising from the banks, the centre of the arch being 70 feet from the bank and ninety from the water; it is built thus high to permit the passage of vessels under it without the inconvenience of a drawbridge.—At this place the delvers are engaged in digging a small canal through the middle of the excavation, to introduce sufficient water from Saint George's Creek to admit boats to convey away the dirt to fill up the marshes, &c.—The dirt is now heaped on the bank at a sufficient distance from the water-bed, to leave room for a wide tow-path. The work proceeds regularly and constantly. Empty teams continually take the place of those which go off with their loads, and by means of copper tokens given to each driver as he takes away a load, the precise number is ascertained by the overseer. The men are summoned to meals and work by a bell, which must be punctually obeyed, or a forfeiture is incurred. The workmen live in companies of 15 and 20 in shanties—frame buildings along the canal, provided with a cook, or board in more private houses erected for the purpose. It is difficult to understand the magnitude of the undertaking without personal inspection. The huge chasm at the Buck astonishes the spectator, although not one third of the intended depth has been dug. Marine substances have been thrown up from the depth of 20 and 30 feet, and lately a common key was found embedded at that distance.

Captain Franklin of the British navy, left Penangshene, Upper Canada, on the 21st April, with three canoes, well manned and provided, on his over-land expedition to the north-western regions.

An expedition to the interior provinces of Mexico, is fitting out at Huntsville, Alabama, to consist of from 70 to 80 young and middle aged men. An investment of \$80,000 had been made in dry goods, which were to be transported to Santa Fe, and there exchanged for specie.

**New Orleans, April 25. INVASION OF CUBA.**

**ALVARADO, March 28, 1825.**  
DEAR SIR—This morning I had the pleasure of receiving your package of papers with the Price Current, for which I feel greatly obliged to you—they are the first I have seen from your quarter since my arrival in this country—I hope you received those sent by the Cecil.

We have been all bustle here of late, making an effort to wage war with Cuba, by sending troops to Campeachy, where, report says, 12 or 1500 men are concentrating to invade the island of Cuba, by checkmaking the famous Castle of St. Juan de Ullao. 1500 men well equipped went out of this port this morning in 6 merchant vessels taken as transports—the brig Margaret Wright, Chamberlain, of Norfolk, Virginia, and others were English, French, and one of this country, under convoy of two heavy gunboats. This government pays them extravagantly well and has better credit for liberality than any other.

The government armed schooner El Estor and a gun boat succeeded in capturing a Spanish government armed Feloua from Cuba, which had supplied the Castle, and was returning. A report is in circulation here to-day that Bolivar will join Santa Anna with troops and with such forces for the invasion as to render success certain—the soldiers enlisted from this country are well adapted for such an enterprise. I enclose you the proclamation of St. Anna, which may be worth publishing.—The independence of that Island I fear will ruin its agriculture and injure the commerce of the United States—I leave to futurity events as they transpire.

The Commanding General of the State of Yucatan, to the division destined for the Island of Cuba.  
Soldiers! You will for some days leave your own soil to occupy that of a neighbouring enemy. Your object should be the possession of one of the principal fortresses of Havana. The state of war in which we are placed with the Spanish nation, the interests of this country, and the clamours of good men in the island of Cuba who have petitioned for aid, however trifling, from the Mexican republic, authorize the present undertaking. Occupy an enemy's position by a military manoeuvre, doing away injury to the nation, and securing innumerable advantages instead thereof, and delivering a country of brothers, are inappreciable services which I cannot decline.

Soldiers! The operation you are about to execute is the first of a combined plan. The military and many of the inhabitants will cooperate with you for its fulfillment. You will maintain at every hazard the position you are to occupy until I can join you.  
Soldiers! You are going to perform for your country, a most important service, the effecting of which will elevate you to the rank of heroes. You are about to secure the independence of this republic for ever, as well as that of the Island of Cuba.

Soldiers! The nation confides to your valour and virtue the destiny of thousands. I cannot doubt, but that 1500 men, animated with intentions like yours, will be enough to intimidate and even vanquish the handful of mercenary soldiers, whom the Captain General of that island can count upon; as otherwise, we have more than enough of forces in the single province of Yucatan, to perform it with activity and enthusiasm.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Campeachy, March 7, 1825.

This is an important movement on the part of Mexico. It is one that must have been made sooner or later, by either Mexico or Colombia, or by a combined effort of both, but there may be some doubt entertained as to the wisdom of making the attempt at this time, unless a similar expedition was prepared to sail from Porto Cavallo or some other of the Colombian ports. Cuba has lately received considerable reinforcements from Spain, and readers have seen by recent accounts that the Captain-General of the Island was on his guard against external and internal danger. Had the Mexicans waited till the Colombian army returned from Peru, then by a combined expedition, there could not exist any reasonable doubt of success; but as it is, doubts on that head must be entertained. Still, we may observe, that a large portion of the white population of Cuba are favourable to a declaration of independence, from which they have alone been deterred by the want of military means, and a dread of the people of colour obtaining an ascendancy. A secret understanding with those anxious for a change, and reasonable ground to suppose that the Spanish garrison at Havana is disaffected, may, then, justify what would otherwise appear, with such a force, a rash and ill-timed enterprise. We differ in opinion with the writer of the above letter on one point.—The independence of a country cannot injure its agriculture or commerce. Both may suffer during the confusion and unsettled state of things naturally attendant on revolutionary movements, but in the end both must be benefitted.

Fed. Gaz.

**THE NORTH-CAROLINA 74.**

Which sailed for the Mediterranean a short time since, has mounted 34 long 42 pounders on her lower gun deck,  
34 long 32 do. upper gun deck,  
24 carronades 42 pounders, } Spar  
2 long 32 pounders, } deck.

94 mounted.  
8 ports in her gunways for 8 more 42 pound carronades.

102  
Why call this vessel a 74?

If our information be correct, the above ship will throw a much heavier broadside than most of the British 3 deckers, and yet she is called a two decker, and a 74.

It might gratify the curiosity of many, if some one possessing the information would furnish a correct statement of the exact number and size of the guns carried by some of the British line of battle ships, from a 74 to a 120—also the rule for rating ships.  
Richmond Whig.

**CAPE MESSURADO.**

By an arrival at Portland, accounts are received that the Colonists at Cape Messurado, Africa, were in good health, and appeared to be flourishing on the 30 March. Several captures had recently been made by English and French vessels. An English frigate was spoken on the coast a French slave vessel with about 370 slaves.

**CONFESSION OF A CONVICT.**

At the Court of Sessions, held at the City Hall in April last, one Joseph Berrill, alias dictus, Riley, was tried on an indictment for constructive larceny, in feloniously appropriating to his own use \$300, the amount of a check on the Chemical bank; also, a check on the Fulton bank for \$250; for both which he drew the money; and \$1000 in cash; but by one of those quibbling distinctions which are sometimes heard in courts of law, and nowhere else, he was acquitted by a verdict of not guilty. Afterwards at the same court, he was convicted of stealing a box of sears, and condemned to the penitentiary for 3 years. While undergoing the penalty he had incurred, he has confessed that he actually stole and secreted the above sums of money, where he can at any time find them again, but the hardened villain refuses to tell where, only on condition of being pardoned.  
N. Y. Ev. Post.

**EARTHQUAKE AT ALGIERS.**

A letter from Mr. Shaler, American Consul at Algiers, states that that city was visited by an earthquake on the morning of the 2d March. A very violent shock was felt. The movement was from east to west laterally, quick and jarring, with a noise resembling that made by a number of waggons driven rapidly over paved ways. The atmosphere was perfectly serene, the wind strong from the interior, the thermometer at 58°, and the barometer falling, though but very slightly affected. The first shock endured about 20 seconds; it was succeeded by two others, at distances of time of 10 and 20 minutes, but less violent.

On the next day the Government of Algiers, received information that the town of Belida had been destroyed by the earthquake—that a mosque, two coffee houses, and five dwelling houses were the only buildings standing in that town; and that almost the whole of its population had perished. Belida is a town situated at the foot of the mountains on the southern verge of the beautiful plain of Metijah; it is reported to have contained about 10,000 inhabitants, and it enjoyed a great degree of agricultural prosperity, it being only 28 miles distant from Algiers, which it supplied with fruit and vegetables.

Shocks of the earthquake were felt at Algiers on the 3d March, and on the 4th they ceased entirely. One of the principal sources of the prosperity of Belida was its numerous springs—a abundance of water circulated freely through all its streets, and extensive plantations. It is now said that about half an hour before this terrible catastrophe, all the water suddenly disappeared, and that now there is none to be found within the distance of half a league. It was remarked by Mr. Shaler, that during the period of the earthquake the sea did not appear to be in the least affected.

The Bashaw, as a proof of his gratitude to Allah for not destroying Algiers also, set at liberty about 350 Kabyles who were detained in chains on account of the political disputes with their tribe.

**SUICIDE.**

Mr John Brown aged 55, committed suicide in the almshouse in Belterica, Massachusetts, by forcing his wooden leg down his throat. He had been for sometime in a state of mental derangement, and imagined that the overseers intended to burn him, and under this impression, committed suicide in the manner above stated. Boston paper.

**GENERAL JACKSON.**

A prophet seldom has honours doled him in his own country; and it is alike true that great men are seldom or never popular at home. This fact and it is one, may arise from the circumstance that there are certain defects of character, often inducing a like, which stand concealed from him, but those with whom an intimate acquaintance is had. General Jackson alone of all the men of our country seems to form an exception to this rule.

His neighbours and acquaintances those living around him, seem to love him best, and to be devoted to him. He had scarcely reached home when they came forth to meet him, and to welcome his arrival. Not a few, to get up a dinner, which may be the case with any man in office, but a voluntary moving of the people was witnessed to welcome his return again to his residence.—Crowds thronged the way-citizens militia, not military chiefs, all pressed to evince their regard for the man whom long they had known and loved. Such was the reception met at Nashville, Tennessee, when he has resided for more than thirty years.

On this occasion Gen. Jackson was addressed by Judge Overton, who says the Nashville Republican has known him upwards of thirty years, and has possessed an intimate acquaintance with all the transactions of his life, civil, military, and political. For a man Judge Overton's standing and character, who has been upon the bench of the Supreme Court of the State, has ever maintained a reputation for independence, integrity, and talents, to have a right to expect nothing of the kind; nor would any thing do him flow from him. Mark what he says: "I have seen you in many situations, at the bar you were the zealous and able advocate—on the bench the firm and inflexible judge—and in the council of our State you displayed political talents which demonstrated that you were well qualified for any situation you might be called on to occupy. For your private virtues you possess our respect and esteem. Kindness, friendship, hospitality, and candour, strongly characterize your conduct. These things endear you to us; for your great and splendid actions let the nation do you equal honour; but for your social and private virtues we claim the right to admire and love you most, because we best know them; all have seen and felt their influence."

Such is the picture of General Jackson, as drawn by Judge Overton, who never has sought political life, is by no means a motive for speaking as he does not think, and who, without, for his character we have had of him, would scorn to say what he did not think, or to become the flatterer of any man, or any account. Wash. Gaz.

**CREEK INDIANS.**—A postscript to the Milledgeville (Geo.) Record of the 3d instant, says, "We stop the press to announce the distressing intelligence of the murder of the Indian chief Gen. Wm. McIntosh, and his Chief of Cowetaw, Tustunneggee Tommie, which was brought to the Governor yesterday evening by Chief McIntosh, the General's son, and five Chiefs of the nation, who made their escape from the massacre. The mischief was perpetrated last Saturday by a large body of Indians, supposed to be five hundred, who attacked Gen. McIntosh in his own house, on the very day he had appointed to set off at the head of a mission to explore the country west of the Mississippi for the future residence of the nation. There is too much reason to fear that white men were the instigators of this horrid butchery."

**FRANCE & AUSTRIA.**  
The London Courier holds this language concerning the political situation of France and Austria: "With regard to the future policy of Austria, and the probable object of Prince Metternich's journey to Paris, we see nothing at present which should cause any inquietude to this country. France is so absorbed in the consideration of internal matters, that she scarcely take a position which could decisively influence any great question of foreign politics; while Austria knows, too well, her own situation, and her own interests, both as respects Greece, and her connexion with the Royal Family of Brazil, to venture upon any step which might be calculated to give offence to England, to awaken her suspicions, or to compromise, in the slightest degree, the tranquillity of Europe."

**PORTUGAL.**

Late advices state that the English were collecting large magazines of provisions at Lisbon, said to be for their fleet in the Tagus, but which appeared better fitted for troops of the line. A frigate was fitting out at Lisbon March 15th, to carry Count Palmella to England. One of the Brazilian commissioners in London has been invited to Lisbon to assist in arranging the terms for the recognition of the independence of Brazil.

**GEN. LAFAYETTE.**

Arrived at Natchez, Mississippi, on the 18th April.  
Switzerland, March 9.  
SNOW.—Toward the end of February the new fallen snow lay three feet deep in the streets of Coire, and in the upper vallies of the Grisons; it was in immense quantities; houses were crushed beneath the enormous weight of the masses that covered them. On the 21st avalanches began to fall. In Bretogau, two men were buried when clearing a road near the village of Vallinda, were surprised by an avalanche; it broke the thigh of one, and carried five others into the abyss below, where they were dug up dead the same day.

**Maryland Gazette.**

ANNAPOLIS:  
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1825.

We are requested to state, that WILLIAM H. MARRIOTT declines being a candidate for a seat in the next legislature of this state.

**JOSEPH LINTHICUM, sen.**

Offers himself to his fellow citizens of Anne Arundel county, as a Candidate to represent them in the next General Assembly.

**VIRGIL MAXCY, Esq.**

Will be supported as a candidate to represent Anne Arundel county in the next General Assembly of Maryland, by MANY VOTERS.

**A LARGE HOG.**—Mr. John Sullivan of this city, has a hog, which will be nine months old on the 9th day of June next; it measures four feet two and an half inches round the body, and two feet seven and an half inches round the neck.

**RAPID GROWTH OF NEW-YORK.**

Almost every paper we open from the astonishing place (says the Washington Gazette) presents us with fresh proofs of its extension and improvement. Business and pleasure, conspire to make it, at no distant day, what London is, one of the greatest capitals in the world, and certainly, by far in America. Mexico, Lima, Buenos Ayres, and the once beautiful city of Caracas, in population and splendour, sink into insignificance, compared with New-York. In our country, it seems destined to outstrip every other city in the Union. Her population is about 150,000, and her tonnage (American and foreign) not much short of half a million, not to mention her China like commerce, from the swarms of boats propelled by steam and horse power, that ply on her canals from the Lakes—to her commercial capital. Prior to the late war, the editor of this paper was an inhabitant of that city, which he quitted during the gloomy period of commercial restriction; but he has never since ceased to rejoice at her prosperity, or to sympathize in her misfortunes.

**STATE OF THE CITY.**—New-York, (says the Evening Post,) never saw such days as the present since it was a city. All kinds of active business prospers, except law business, which lives by believe the loud and general complaint of the profession, with scarcely a dissentient, languishes. Such has been the tide of population which has, during the present year, set towards this city, that habitations cannot be had; shops and stores command double rents to what they did the last season, and still the demand cannot be supplied; the streets are so obstructed by the great number of buildings going up and pulling down, that they have become almost impassable, and a scene of obste, noise and confusion prevails, that no pen can describe, nor any but an eye witness imagine.

**BARON STEUBEN.**—A meeting was held at Utica, on the 3d inst. to consider the propriety of erecting a monument over the grave of the late Baron Steuben, whose remains now lie undistinguished in the town which bears his name in Oneida county. A committee was appointed to obtain descriptions for the purpose. It is intended that Gen. Lafayette shall lay the corner stone, he being expected to arrive at that vicinity during the early part of June.

We copy the following from that excellent work, Spufford's Gazetteer: "Baron Steuben, died in this town, in the autumn of 1796, and was buried on his own ground, under a small evergreen tree, agreeably to his wishes. The Baron's friends erected a neat monumental stone, duly inscribed, to his memory, in the Reformed German Church, in the city of New-York, of which I believe he was a member. It should be recorded, that the grave of this patriot has been repeatedly desecrated, conformably to law, a highway having been laid over the spot selected by himself for sepulture, and that his friends have had to disinter and re-move his remains. They now repose under the shade of another grave, protected by a religious society to which the land has been granted for a glebe.  
Albany D. Adv.

Switzerland, March 9.  
SNOW.—Toward the end of February the new fallen snow lay three feet deep in the streets of Coire, and in the upper vallies of the Grisons; it was in immense quantities; houses were crushed beneath the enormous weight of the masses that covered them. On the 21st avalanches began to fall. In Bretogau, two men were buried when clearing a road near the village of Vallinda, were surprised by an avalanche; it broke the thigh of one, and carried five others into the abyss below, where they were dug up dead the same day.