

## **Railroad Communication with the Pacific: Central Pacific Railroad**

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The GREAT NATIONAL PACIFIC RAILROAD LINE, which is being constructed, with the aid and under the supervision of the United States Government, between the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific Ocean, forming with its existing eastern connections a continuous line across the continent, is destined to become one of the most important channels of trade and communication in the world...

...It presents the shortest and most practical route to the Pacific, and must serve four-fifths of all the population west of the Missouri river...Already centres of population dot its length from Omaha to San Francisco and it seems certain that a chain of great cities must grow up in its path, swelling the volume of trade and travel to dimensions which baffle all present estimate...

...The half million of people in California would speedily jump to five millions upon the establishment of railroad communication; and the value of all property interests, both there and in the intermediate territories, would be largely enhanced. A railroad is the one thing wanting to shower a general blessing on the Far West...

The people on the Pacific coast are drawn from the East, and are still bound by the strongest ties to the Atlantic States. [The railroad will] bring them to within from four to six days of the places they knew in their youth. It is to banish a twenty-two days' ocean voyage, with its ... shipboard discomforts...

Found on the *University of Cornell: Making of America* website:  
[http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/moa\\_search.html](http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/moa_search.html)