

HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION.

According to the reports received by the Census Office from the different railroad corporations, as exhibited by the detail tables, construction of steam railroads in the United States was commenced during the year 1830, at the end of which year 39.80 miles had been completed.

There are four corporations which report this mileage: the Baltimore and Ohio, with 15 miles in the state of Maryland; the Schuylkill Valley Navigation and Railroad Company, with 11 miles, the Mill Creek and Mine Hill, with 3.80 miles, both in the state of Pennsylvania; and the South Carolina, with 10 miles in South Carolina. The first three are included in Group II, and the latter in Group III. Besides these four there may be several others which had commenced construction in 1830, but, having no part of their roads actually completed therein, reported the miles completed in the succeeding years.

In the New England states (Group I) construction was commenced in 1834; in the middle states (Group II) in 1830; in the southern states (Group III) also in 1830; in the central western states (Group IV) in 1842; in Louisiana, Arkansas, etc. (Group V), in 1838; and in the western trans-Mississippi states and the territories (Group VI) in 1856.

Since the completion of the 39.80 miles in 1830 the average increase per year up to December 31, 1880, has been 1,733.16 miles, making a total increase in the forty-nine years (to December 31, 1879) of 84,924.85 miles, which is over 2,123-fold the mileage of 1830. During the first decade 2,264.67 miles, or 2.6 per cent. of the aggregate of December 31, 1879, were built; 5,045.77, or 5.7 per cent., during the second decade; 20,109.63, or 22.9 per cent., during the third; 16,090.36, or 18.3 per cent., during the fourth; and 41,454.22, or 50.5 per cent., during the fifth and last decade. In the six months ending June 30, 1880, further, 2,836.77 miles were built, making the aggregate of completed roads 87,801.42 miles.

TABLE A.—EXHIBIT OF THE NUMBER OF MILES OF RAILROADS BUILT AND COMPLETED IN EACH YEAR FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES, IN 1830, TO DECEMBER 31, 1879, AND ALSO IN THE SIX MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 1880.

Year.	GEOGRAPHICAL GROUPS.												Aggregate for the United States.		
	I. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.		II. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and District of Columbia.		III. Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennes- see, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina.		IV. Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Minnesota.		V. Louisiana, Arkansas, and Indian ter- ritory.		VI. Dakota, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and Washington territories, and Ne- braska, Kansas, Texas, Colorado, Cali- fornia, Nevada, and Oregon.				
	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.			Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.
1830			29.80	29.80	10.00	10.00								39.80	39.80
1831			98.70	128.50		10.00								98.70	138.50
1832			107.62	236.12	83.68	93.68								101.90	320.80
1833			13.59	249.71	102.32	196.00								115.91	445.71
1834	31.60	31.60	182.32	432.03		196.00								213.92	659.63
1835	66.55	98.15	71.27	503.30		196.00								137.82	797.45
1836	46.07	144.22	202.01	705.31	32.00	228.00								280.08	1,077.53
1837	56.15	200.37	232.48	937.79	59.75	287.75								348.38	1,425.01
1838	50.76	251.13	243.31	1,181.10	138.06	425.81			20.75	20.75				452.88	1,878.79
1839	105.55	356.68	218.79	1,399.89	61.54	487.35				20.75				385.88	2,264.67
1840	156.66	513.34	83.87	1,483.76	249.98	737.33				20.75				490.51	2,755.18
1841	99.97	613.31	244.02	1,727.78	261.89	999.22				20.75				605.88	3,361.06
1842	180.16	793.47	204.79	1,932.57	40.00	1,039.22	54.00	54.00	25.73	46.48				504.68	3,865.74
1843	20.93	814.40	47.88	1,980.45	119.00	1,208.22		54.00		46.48				287.81	4,153.55
1844	42.16	856.56	108.30	2,088.75	29.50	1,237.72		54.00		46.48				179.96	4,333.51

STATISTICS OF RAILROADS.

TABLE A.—EXHIBIT OF THE NUMBER OF MILES OF RAILROADS BUILT AND COMPLETED, ETC.—Continued.

Year.	GEOGRAPHICAL GROUPS.												Aggregate for the United States.		
	I. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.		II. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and District of Columbia.		III. Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennes- see, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina.		IV. Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Minnesota.		V. Louisiana, Arkansas, and Indian ter- ritory.		VI. Dakota, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and Washington territories, and Ne- braska, Kansas, Texas, Colorado, Cali- fornia, Nevada, and Oregon.				
	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.	Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.			Miles built.	Total miles on Decem- ber 31, each year.
1845.....	88.46	945.02	179.45	2,268.20	9.00	1,296.72	.....	54.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	276.91	4,610.42
1846.....	123.28	1,068.30	51.49	2,319.69	158.00	1,454.72	.....	54.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	332.77	4,943.19
1847.....	162.43	1,230.73	75.08	2,394.77	25.00	1,479.72	.....	54.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	262.51	5,205.70
1848.....	441.29	-1,672.02	499.67	2,894.44	105.50	1,535.22	10.00	64.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	1,056.46	6,262.16
1849.....	583.76	2,255.78	311.02	3,205.46	120.50	1,705.72	33.00	97.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	1,048.28	7,310.44
1850.....	339.79	2,595.57	534.90	3,740.36	376.35	2,082.07	10.00	107.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	1,261.04	8,571.48
1851.....	136.47	2,732.04	867.08	4,607.44	246.91	2,323.98	24.00	131.00	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	1,274.46	9,845.94
1852.....	328.27	3,060.31	1,327.02	5,934.46	455.28	2,784.26	177.87	308.87	.....	46.48	.....	.....	.....	2,288.44	12,134.38
1853.....	168.76	3,229.07	1,435.25	7,369.71	318.16	3,102.42	215.45	524.32	32.00	78.48	.....	.....	.....	2,169.62	14,304.00
1854.....	145.19	3,374.26	1,126.87	8,496.58	1,653.34	4,155.76	1,114.76	1,639.08	2.00	80.48	.....	.....	.....	3,442.16	17,746.16
1855.....	128.91	3,503.17	707.33	9,203.91	353.72	4,509.48	1,214.67	2,853.95	48.00	128.48	.....	.....	.....	2,452.83	20,196.99
1856.....	25.19	3,528.36	572.99	9,776.90	400.47	4,909.95	428.28	3,277.23	0.75	129.23	48.19	48.19	.....	1,470.87	21,669.86
1857.....	92.80	3,621.16	795.64	10,572.54	649.70	5,559.65	528.90	3,906.13	.....	129.23	10.00	58.19	.....	2,077.04	23,746.90
1858.....	13.09	3,634.25	732.90	11,305.44	610.98	6,170.63	575.78	4,381.91	18.00	147.23	15.30	73.49	.....	1,966.05	25,712.95
1859.....	4.20	3,638.45	379.59	11,685.03	659.35	7,129.38	322.79	4,704.70	.....	147.23	41.19	114.68	.....	1,707.12	27,420.07
1860.....	5.79	3,644.24	242.18	11,927.21	777.81	7,907.79	246.77	4,951.47	103.00	250.23	124.17	238.85	.....	1,499.72	28,919.79
1861.....	61.21	3,705.45	113.23	12,040.44	578.05	8,485.84	161.51	5,112.98	61.60	311.83	40.25	279.10	.....	1,015.85	29,935.64
1862.....	3.97	3,709.42	399.90	12,440.34	132.00	8,617.84	184.13	5,297.11	.....	311.83	.....	279.10	.....	720.00	30,655.64
1863.....	15.70	3,725.12	440.40	12,890.74	27.10	8,644.94	56.30	5,353.41	.....	311.83	34.40	318.50	.....	573.90	31,229.54
1864.....	33.74	3,758.86	406.25	13,296.99	24.56	8,669.50	331.70	5,685.11	.....	311.83	151.15	464.65	.....	947.40	32,176.94
1865.....	39.04	3,797.90	372.31	13,650.30	10.75	8,680.25	278.95	5,964.06	.....	311.83	117.67	582.32	.....	818.72	32,995.66
1866.....	56.93	3,854.83	543.61	14,202.91	26.50	8,706.75	326.82	6,290.88	19.40	331.23	430.32	1,012.64	.....	1,493.58	34,399.24
1867.....	81.42	3,936.25	724.75	14,927.66	452.10	9,158.85	768.54	7,059.42	.....	331.23	512.87	1,526.51	.....	2,540.68	36,939.92
1868.....	84.49	4,020.74	513.06	15,441.32	336.44	9,495.29	579.93	7,639.35	.....	331.23	953.34	2,479.85	.....	2,467.86	39,407.78
1869.....	93.87	4,114.61	1,108.76	16,550.68	311.43	10,006.72	1,475.57	9,114.92	.....	331.23	913.02	3,392.87	.....	4,102.65	43,510.43
1870.....	212.12	4,326.73	1,741.85	18,291.98	692.88	10,609.60	1,915.93	11,080.85	.....	331.23	1,185.12	4,577.99	.....	5,657.90	49,168.33
1871.....	482.75	4,809.48	1,570.93	19,862.86	530.53	11,140.13	2,937.64	13,968.49	201.97	533.20	936.45	5,514.44	.....	6,669.27	55,828.60
1872.....	294.47	5,103.95	2,022.94	21,885.70	828.34	11,968.47	2,434.27	16,402.76	67.00	600.20	1,792.12	7,306.56	.....	7,430.04	63,277.64
1873.....	270.26	5,374.21	1,557.65	23,443.35	773.00	12,741.47	1,555.73	17,958.49	35.00	635.20	1,025.42	8,331.98	.....	5,217.06	68,484.70
1874.....	168.40	5,542.61	1,131.14	24,574.49	284.85	13,026.32	756.60	18,715.09	.....	635.20	242.80	8,574.78	.....	2,583.79	71,068.49
1875.....	150.94	5,693.55	670.26	25,144.75	44.10	13,070.42	255.55	18,970.64	88.80	724.00	496.83	9,071.61	.....	1,606.48	72,674.97
1876.....	89.99	5,738.54	743.97	25,888.72	267.18	13,337.60	541.01	19,511.65	45.00	769.00	988.23	10,069.84	.....	3,575.38	75,250.35
1877.....	111.61	5,845.15	744.07	26,632.79	150.84	13,488.44	539.65	20,051.30	.....	769.00	733.51	10,743.35	.....	2,279.68	77,530.03
1878.....	39.92	5,885.07	688.31	27,321.10	159.92	13,648.36	854.06	20,905.36	13.50	782.50	672.44	11,415.79	.....	3,428.15	79,958.18
1879.....	59.45	5,944.52	720.99	28,042.09	554.53	14,202.89	1,540.57	22,445.93	73.00	855.50	2,057.93	13,473.72	.....	5,066.47	84,964.65
1880 (Jan. 1 to June 30).....	3.73	5,948.30	359.53	28,401.62	113.07	14,315.96	516.80	22,962.73	94.88	950.38	1,748.71	15,222.43	.....	2,636.77	87,601.42