



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500  
blr@raremaps.com

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**Mercator's Projection. With the Great Circle (Shortest Sailing) Or Air Lines, Illustrating the directness & capacity of the River St. Lawrence from Lake Erie to the Atlantic. As a means of communication between Europe and the Commercial Centre of the Great West, Shewing also the Extension of the Northern Pacific Railway Route Through Canada, to the Nearest Atlantic Seaport at Montreal . . . 1855**

**Stock#:** 84716  
**Map Maker:** Keefer  
**Date:** 1855  
**Place:** Montreal  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 34.5 x 22.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 1,200.00



**Description:**

***No Direct Route To San Francisco?***

Rare map of North America and the Atlantic, Canadian railway links and the coming Transcontinental Railroad across the Continent.

The map shows 5 prospective routes across North America:

- Lake Superior to Vancouver
- Chicago - Salt Lake - Columbia River
- 3 Routes from Chicago to Southern California

While the California Routes follow the Sierra Nevada Mountains northwards and on to San Francisco, the obvious question in looking at the route is whether the maker was downplaying the convenience of access to San Francisco in favor of promoting Vancouver.

Prepared by Thomas Coltrin Keefer for the 1855 Paris Exposition Universelle to promote Canadian trade, the map promotes new Canadian ports as gateways to the railroad lines of North America and the future Transcontinental routes.

The map illustrates the hope that Canadian routes would help in the transformation of Canada from colony



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to nation. Includes an elevation profile map at at bottom shows "Johnson's Profile of the Northern Route for the Pacific Railroad from Lake Michigan to Vancouver Island, shewing relative Summits on other Routes."

**Rarity**

The map is rare on the market. This is the first example we have offered for sale.

**Detailed Condition:**

Minor toning and foxing.