

before the present ones were selected. Thousands of borings have been made from the six-fathom line in the Atlantic to the six-fathom line in the Pacific, and an intimate knowledge of the geological formation along the entire route has been obtained to a depth far below that required for canal purposes. It is found that it will take less than ten years to build the canal and some of the engineers estimate that during its construction at least 50,000 men will be given employment in the United States and on the isthmus.