

Image not found

[https://sites.msudenver.edu/tpswesternregion/wp-content/uploads/sites/476/2021/11/tps\\_logo-1.png](https://sites.msudenver.edu/tpswesternregion/wp-content/uploads/sites/476/2021/11/tps_logo-1.png)

## ALBUM PRIMARY SOURCES AND PICTURE BOOKS: SAMUEL MORSE, THAT'S WHO! BY TRACY NELSON MAURER AND EL PRIMO RAMON

### Album Description

bestof

## FIRST TELEGRAPH MESSAGE, 24 MAY 1844.



**Reference Link:** <http://www.loc.gov/item/mcc.019/>

Created / Published: 24 May 1844

Subject Headings: - Artists

- Inventors
- Inventions
- Communications
- Morse, Samuel Finley Breese (1791-1872)
- Painters
- Ellsworth, Annie G
- Ellsworth, Henry Leavitt (1791-1858)
- Telegraph
- Manuscripts

Genre: Manuscripts

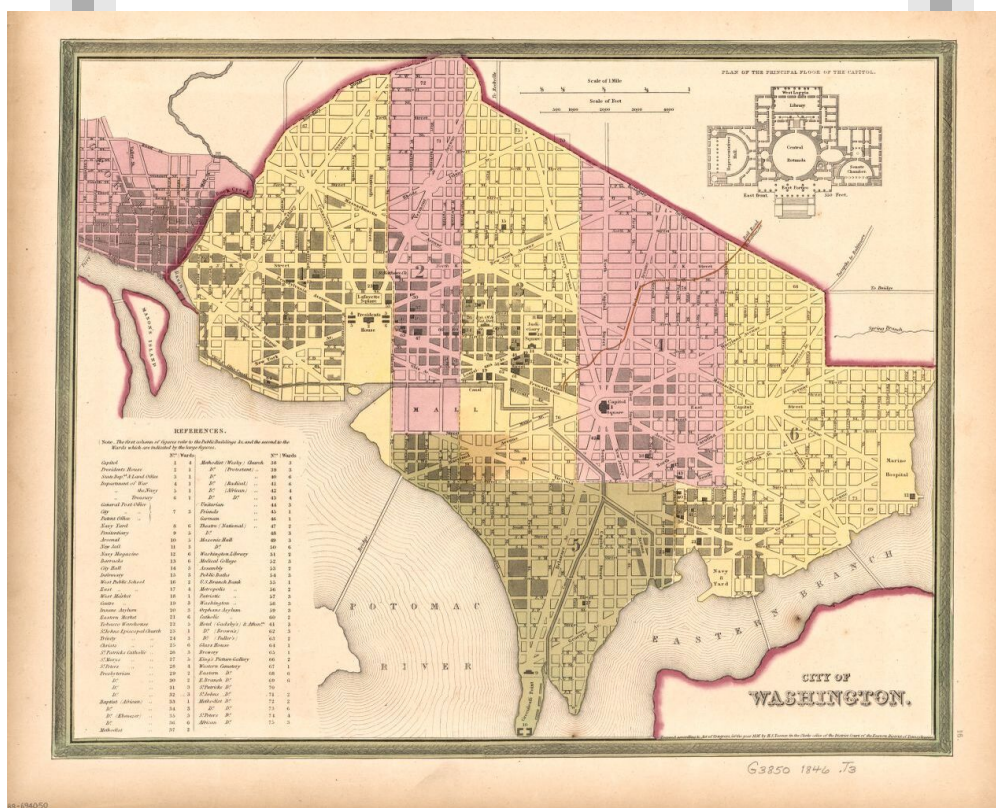
Notes: - Reproduction number: A97 (color slide)

- Artist and inventor Samuel Finley Breese Morse (1791-1872) is credited with developing the first practical telegraph instrument, an apparatus he formally demonstrated on 24 May 1844. Shown here is the "outgoing" paper tape containing the famed message "What hath God Wrought?," which was sent by Morse on the wire from the Supreme Court chamber in the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., to his assistant, Alfred Vail (1807-1859), who was stationed at the Mount Clare railroad depot in Baltimore, Maryland. In this dramatic demonstration, Morse proved the telegraph a success. Four tapes of the message sent that day were produced: this strip of the outgoing message sent from Washington, D.C.; a tape recording the incoming message simultaneously in Baltimore; an outgoing repeat-back tape sent from Baltimore by Vail; and a tape recording the repeat-back message in Washington. The whereabouts of all but one tape, Vail's outgoing strip from Baltimore, are known.

- Morse's outgoing message, shown here, was inscribed by him and presented at the time of the demonstration to Miss Annie G. Ellsworth, the young daughter of his friend Henry Leavitt Ellsworth (1791-1858), commissioner of patents. It was Annie who selected the text from the Bible (Numbers XXIII, 23) and who also traced in heavy pen and ink over the pencilled letters Morse had written under each code character. Seventy-eight years later, in 1922, Annie Ellsworth's daughter, Mrs. George Inness, gave the tape to the Library of Congress.

Repository: Manuscript Division

## CITY OF WASHINGTON.



**Reference Link:** <http://www.loc.gov/item/88694050/>

Contributor Names: Tanner, Henry Schenck, 1786-1858.

Mitchell, S. Augustus (Samuel Augustus), 1792-1868.

Created / Published: [Philadelphia : S. Augustus Mitchell, 1846]

Subject Headings: - Washington (D.C.)--Maps

- Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)--Maps
- United States--District of Columbia--Washington
- United States--District of Columbia--Washington--Georgetown

Notes: - Shows wards, built-up areas, and major buildings.

- Also covers Georgetown.

- "Entered according to Act of Congress ... 1836 by H.S. Tanner ... Eastern District of Pennsylvania."

- Includes note, Capitol floorplan, and index to points of interest.

- "16."

- LC copy accompanied by typewritten information card: [From] New universal atlas, H.S. Tanner, S. Augustus Mitchell, Philadelphia, 1846.

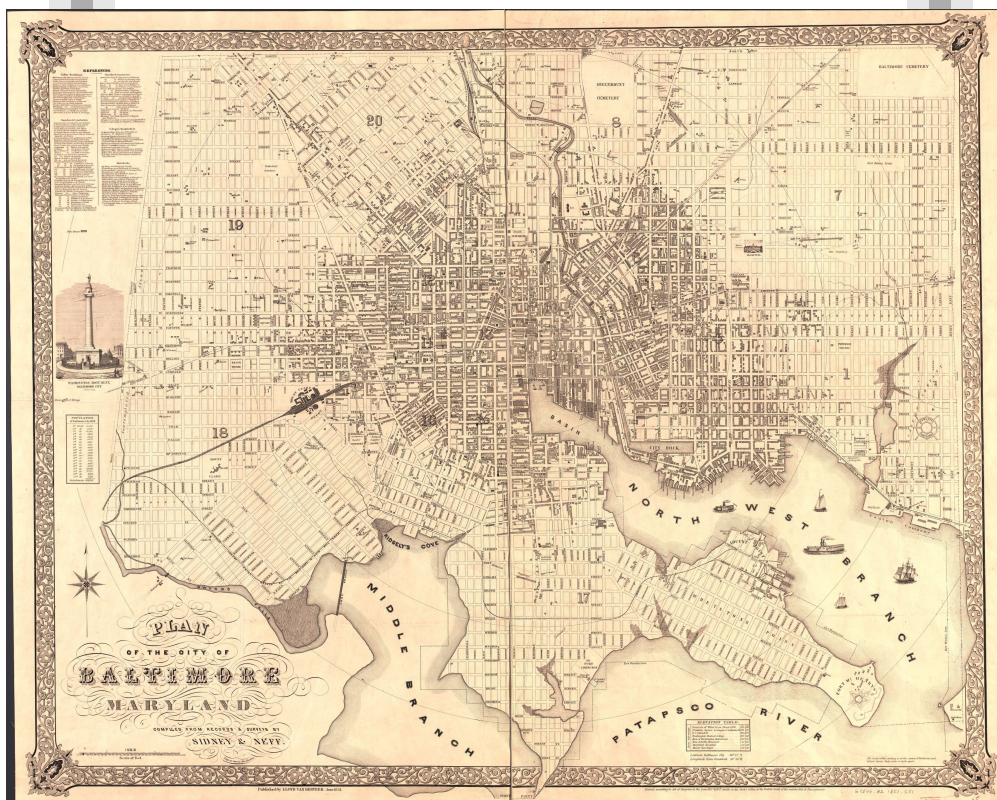
- Available also through the Library of Congress Web site as a raster image.

- DCP

Repository: Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C. 20540-4650 USA dcu

Digital Id: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/gmd/g3850.ct004364>

## PLAN OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



**Reference Link:** <http://www.loc.gov/item/2004629026/>

Contributor Names: Sidney & Neff.

Van Derveer, Lloyd.

Created / Published: [S.l.] : published by Lloyd van Derveer, 1851.

Subject Headings: - Baltimore (Md.)--Maps

- United States--Maryland--Baltimore

Notes: - Includes index, population chart and view of Washington Monument.

- Shows wards.

- Available also through the Library of Congress Web site as a raster image.

Repository: Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C. 20540-4650 USA dcu

Digital Id: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3844b.ct001132>

**NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 28, 1843**

MORSE'S TELEGRAPH.—The Madisonian says that Professor Morse is about to begin laying the wires of his electric telegraph on the Baltimore and Washington Railroad. The wires are to be protected by leaden tubes, in which they are enclosed. We have seen a specimen of these tubes. They are about the size of a man's finger in circumference, and the bore is about a quarter of an inch in diameter. [Eve. Post.]

**Reference Link:**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030213/1843-09-28/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=4&state=d>

**THE WHIG STANDARD, DECEMBER 08, 1843**

**ELECTRO-MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.**—It will be recollected that an appropriation of \$30,000 was made during the last session of Congress, for the purpose of trying an experiment with Professor Morse's Electro-Magnetic Telegraph, between the cities of Baltimore and Washington. We have ascertained that this work is now rapidly progressing. About a month ago, those having the contract commenced laying the leaden pipe, in which are placed the electric wires. In the course of a few days it became necessary to suspend operations, for the purpose of procuring more suitable material. This was obtained, and the work again resumed. The pipes (about an inch in diameter,) are now laid from the signal office in McHenry, near Poppleton street, Baltimore, to the Relay house—a distance of nine miles. They follow the course of the railroad track, except in a few instances, where, for convenience and economy, curves have been avoided. Professor Morse, we learn, contemplates,

**Reference Link:**

[https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1843-12-08/ed-1/seq-](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1843-12-08/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=5&state=d)

[2/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=5&state=d](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1843-12-08/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=5&state=d)

**NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, APRIL 10, 1844**

**MORSE'S TELEGRAPH.**—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Chronicle says, Morse's magnetic electric telegraph is now being erected. The wires are conducted along the tops of posts running parallel with the railroad to Baltimore. Two miles of continuous lines of wires are now put up. By means of this telegraph news may be conveyed in an *instant* to Baltimore along the wires. The telegraph will be in operation before the adjournment of Congress.—Recent experiments upon the finished part leave no doubt of its complete success.

**Reference Link:**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030213/1844-04-10/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=9&state=&>

THE NEW YORK HERALD, MAY 03, 1844

WASHINGTON, May 1, 1844.

It is now twenty-five minutes past five o'clock. The cars at this moment are at the junction twenty-two miles distant on their way from Baltimore to Washington. This fact we learn by Professor Morse's wonderful Telegraph, now in full operation for the above distance of 22 miles. By this Telegraph we also learn that Mr. Clay has been this day nominated for President, and Mr. Frelinghuysen of N. J. for Vice President. Professor Morse has politely given me a part of the paper on which the news is contained, which I send you. It contains the word "Frelinghuysen," with the (g) left out through haste, and was written *with a pen twenty-two miles long*.

Reference Link:

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030313/1844-05-03/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=13&state=>



BLOOMINGTON HERALD, MAY 03, 1844

**MORSE'S TELEGRAPH.**—Morse's magnetic electric telegraph between Washington and Baltimore, is now being erected. The wires are conducted along the tops of posts running parallel with the rail-road to Baltimore. Two miles of continuous lines of wires are now put up. By means of this telegraph, news may be conveyed in an instant to Baltimore along the wires. The telegraph is expected to be in operation before the adjournment of Congress. Recent experiments upon the finished part leaves no doubt of its complete success.

**Reference Link:**

[https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85050801/1844-05-03/ed-1/seq-](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85050801/1844-05-03/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1843&index=2&rows=20&words=Morse+telegraph+TELEGRAPH+TELEGRAPH.%E2%80%94Morse&)

[1/#date1=1843&index=2&rows=20&words=Morse+telegraph+TELEGRAPH+TELEGRAPH.%E2%80%94Morse&](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85050801/1844-05-03/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1843&index=2&rows=20&words=Morse+telegraph+TELEGRAPH+TELEGRAPH.%E2%80%94Morse&)

**STAUNTON SPECTATOR, AND GENERAL ADVERTISER, MAY 16, 1844**

Prof. MORSE'S Electro-Magnetic Telegraph, in course of construction between Washington and Baltimore, is now in full operation a distance of twenty-two miles. When the cars from this city, on their way to Washington, on Wednesday, were within twenty miles of the latter city, information of the Whig nominations for President and Vice President was communicated by means of the Telegraph. The fluid traversed the whole 22 miles and back again—making 44 miles—in no perceptible part of a second of time.—*Balt. Amer.*

**Reference Link:**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84024719/1844-05-16/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=16&state=>

**ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE, MAY 24, 1844**

A Mr. Ezra Cornell, of Ithaca, New York, has invented a plough of great merit and much simplicity, for laying lead pipes in the earth by animal power, and without excavation by hand.— The thickness of the share, made of cast iron, is in proportion to the size of the pipe desired to be laid; and, of course, it is moved through the earth with corresponding ease, causing but a narrow cut or crack in the earth, which readily closes as the machine advances; the pipe being disengaged from the drum or cylinder of the machine, on which it is coiled, is left at the bottom of the trench, or as deep in the ground as the machine was guaged to run, by an adjustment of the wheels. The pipe for Professor Morse's Telegraph has been laid by it for the distance of about ten miles. In illustration of the rapidity

**Reference Link:**

[https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85025007/1844-05-24/ed-1/seq-](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85025007/1844-05-24/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=19&state=)

[3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=19&state=](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85025007/1844-05-24/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=19&state=)

**NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, MAY 27, 1844**

The wire, (perfectly secured against the weather by a covering of rope-yarn and tar,) is conducted on the top of posts about 20 feet high, and about 100 yards apart. We understand that the nominations on Monday next will be forwarded to Washington by means of this Telegraph. The following is the Alphabet used :

(a) . ———	(iy) . . . ———	(r) . . . . .
(b) ——— . . . .	(k) ——— . ———	(sz) . . . . .
(c) . . . . .	(l) —————	(t) ——— . . .
(d) ——— . . . .	(m) ——— ———	(u) . . . ———
(e) . . . . .	(n) ——— . . . .	(v) . . . . ———
(f) . ——— . . . .	(o) . . . . .	(w) . ——— ———
(g) ——— ——— . .	(p) . . . . .	(x) . ——— . . .
(h) . . . . .	(q) . . . ——— . .	

**Reference Link:**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030213/1844-05-27/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+telegraph+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=1>

THE WHIG STANDARD, MAY 30, 1844

## LOCAL NEWS.

### PROFESSOR MORSE'S TELEGRAPH.

A large number of gentlemen assembled yesterday at the north front of the Capitol to hear the Telegraphic despatches.

Immediately after the announcement of the nomination made at Baltimore, it was proposed that the thanks of those present be tendered to Professor Morse, which was concurred in generally, and the following resolution was offered by Mr. George B. Wallis, correspondent of the Ohio Statesman, which was *unanimously* adopted, and three cheers given for the Professor and his invention, to which he returned his sincere thanks for the compliment :

**Reference Link:**

[https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1844-05-30/ed-1/seq-](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1844-05-30/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=MORSE+TELEGRAPH&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=4&)

[3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=MORSE+TELEGRAPH&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=4&](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016317/1844-05-30/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=MORSE+TELEGRAPH&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=4&)

**RICHMOND ENQUIRER, MAY 31, 1844**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION.**

We are indebted to Mr. Morse's Electro Magnetic Telegraph for an outline of the proceedings of the Convention up to the adjournment.

The locomotive, with the mail, came thundering along with the intelligence up to five o'clock, which had been received here by the lightning express two hours and a half previously.

*Spectator.*

*Specimens of intelligence transmitted by the Telegraph in a second from Baltimore to Washington.*

(Professor Morse's Electro Magnetic Telegraph now constructed between the Capitol at Washington and the Railroad Depot in Pratt, between Charles and light streets, Baltimore.)

**Reference Link:**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84024735/1844-05-31/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1843&sort=date&rows=20&words=Morse+Telegraph&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=7&state=d>

Image not found

[https://sites.msudenver.edu/tpswesternregion/wp-content/uploads/sites/476/2021/11/tps\\_logo-1.png](https://sites.msudenver.edu/tpswesternregion/wp-content/uploads/sites/476/2021/11/tps_logo-1.png)

**SAMUEL F. B. MORSE PAPERS AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, 1793 TO 1919**