The past and the future are both foreign countries

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Contingency
(Left) London’s railway termini circa 1860, and (right) the proposed London Grand Junction Railway, 1837.
Path dependency
La station souterraine de Baker-street, à Londres, éclairée par des puits communicant avec la surface du sol.
Left to right (a) detail of Vischer’s view of London, 1616; (b) Gustave Doré London Bridge, 1870; (c) London Bridge attack 3 June 2017, photo by Dominic Lipinski/PA Wire
Rise and decline
Diachrony and Synchrony
View of the Metropolitan Railway and Flow map of the Inner Circle, 1884

The ‘Inner Circle Railway’ 1884

- Harrow
- King’s Cross
- Baker Street
- Broad Street
- Moorgate Street
- Aldgate
- Whitechapel
- New Cross
- Victoria
- Kensington (High Street)
- Charing Cross
- Mansion House
- West Brompton
- Earl’s Court
- Richmond
- Ealing
- Hammersmith
- GW main line
- outer circle
- middle circle
- inner circle

No. of trains per hour
- 8
- 6
- 3
- 2

Total on south side of Inner Circle west of Mansion House: 18 trains per hour
Total on north side of Inner Circle through Moorgate and Edgware Road: 19 trains per hour
Gustave Doré, Workmen’s early morning train
• Le matin où, avec Elle, vous vous débattîtes parmi les éclats de neige, les lèvres vertes, les glaces, les drapeaux noirs et les rayons bleus, et les parfums pourpres du soleil des pôles. — Ta force.

• The morning when, with Her, you struggled through shards of snow, the green lips, the icefields, the black flags and blue rays, and the crimson perfumes of polar sun. – Your strength
At the beginning there was smoke…

*Illustrated London News, 20 January 1863*