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Günther Oestmann* (oestmann@nord-com.net), Gandersheimer Str. 20, 28215 Bremen, Germany. *Delayed Progress in Navigation: The Introduction of Line of Position Navigation in the 19th Century.*

In 1843 the American sea captain Thomas H. Sumner published a small book under the title "A New and Accurate Method of Finding a Ship's Position at Sea by Projection on Mercator's Chart", which was the result of an accidental observation he had made six years before. The discovery of the line of position by celestial observation was rightly called "the commencement of a new era in practical navigation" by Matthew Fontaine Maury and forms the basis of celestial navigation until present time. Although Sumner's method was adopted immediately in the U.S. Navy and accepted readily in the Royal Navy also, its reception took a considerable longer period of time in other countries. In my paper a survey of this process shall be given. (Received September 01, 2010)