The political cartoon pictured below is titled "Modern Colossus of (Rail) Roads," and was drawn in 1879. It depicts Cornelius "the Commodore" Vanderbilt and the sign reads "all freight leaving the seaboard MUST pass here and pay any tolls we demand". Use the cartoon and your knowledge of U.S. history to answer the question below.

The reins held by Vanderbilt attach not only to the trains but also to the tracks and the railroad station. What does this convey about his control of the Railroads?

A. Vanderbilt has total control of the entire railroad operation. Thus, he can do with it whatever he wants.

B. Vanderbilt, along with two assistants, has the majority of control in railroad shipping operations.

C. Vanderbilt controls the prices of railroad shipping, but has little involvement in the action operations.

D. Vanderbilt owns the majority of the railroads, but has little involvement of any kind.

Answer

A. Vanderbilt has total control of the entire railroad operation. Thus, he can do with it whatever he wants.