

AN UNJUSTIFIABLE PROCEEDING.

An advertisement is printed in the Times of this city, signed by the secretary of the Department of the Interior, asking for tenders for the exclusive right to dredge for gold in one hundred consecutive miles of the Stewart river, a tributary of the Yukon.

In the first place, consider the notice that has been given. One month and three days after the date of the advertisement the government will part with the exclusive right to dredge for gold in a very important river fully five thousand miles distant from Ottawa.

But if it be said that the Yukon is too far away for the government to wait until the miners on the ground are notified of the decision to lease the river, what shall be said about this Coast, who naturally would be supposed to have some interest in a transaction of this kind and be anxious to compete?

We think the idea of leasing the exclusive right of dredging on a new and almost untried river for one hundred miles to any single individual is a very questionable policy.

made known long in advance of the granting of the leases. 3rd. The notice in the present case is practically no notice at all, except to those persons who knew beforehand that the river was to be leased.

THE UNREASONABLE "TIMES."

The Times agree with the Colonist that it is undesirable to permit the Canadian Pacific to become the arbiter of the future of Central British Columbia, yet, strange to say, it did not think of saying so until we had pointed out that this would be the effect of Mr. Smith's motion if it had carried.

Our contemporary asks what there is to prevent the C.P.R. from constructing the road from Penticton to Boundary. Nothing that we know of except that some one else may offer to do so on better terms.

But there is a hole in our contemporary's argument. The subsidy from the Coast to Penticton is for a line starting at English Bluff and extending by way of Chilliwack to Penticton.

Mr. SMITH frankly stated that the reason why he wanted Cariboo tapped from the C.P.R. was because the country would be able thereby to get its supplies from the East.

MR. SWORD'S PROPOSITION.

Mr. Sword's proposition, that the provincial government should put the \$4,000 per mile provided in the subsidy bill, \$8,000 per mile to be got from the Dominion government, and such other necessary amount as could be borrowed on the Penticton-Boundary railway, into that road and construct it as a public work was, with all deference to the member from Dewdney, about the wildest and a legislative assembly.

The passage of the railway bill was stubbornly and factiously resisted by the opposition at every stage. The extension of their course probably is that having dug their political graves on Thursday, they thought that they ought to complete the job and bury themselves yesterday.

When the Greeks and Turks leave Crete for the mainland will John Bull take possession, not necessarily for perpetuity, but as a guarantee of good faith?

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Register—Excuse me, ma'am, but are you married? Would-be voter—Oh, sir, she—Oh, Jack, there's a seal in this oyster. He (excitedly)—Eh, may-may-may, I've it set in an engagement ring?—Pick-Me-Up.

"Old man, you seem worried." "Worried is no name for it. Brown is coming around at 4 o'clock to pay me \$15." "Think he may not come." "Oh, he'll come alright; but Jones is due at 4:15 o'clock to try to collect \$10 I owe him. Suppose he should get here just as I was being paid by Brown?"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Paine's Celery Compound for Men, Women and Children. Read the following testimony that comes from Miss Blake, of 292 High Street, Hamilton:

MONOPOLY FOR SALE!

Is This What is Meant by a Dominion Government Advertisement?

Exclusive Rights to Dredge For Gold in the Famous Stewart River.

An advertisement under the royal arms and bearing the signature of secretary John R. Hall, of the department of the interior, was the occasion of a special investigation of the council of the board of trade being held Monday afternoon, a meeting of more than passing importance to all British Columbia.

To offer a monopoly of all the gold in one hundred miles of a river known to be rich in the yellow metal, and that, too, before the miners who after months of toilsome traveling are now seeking their fortunes in the region in question, certainly appears prima facie a very strange proceeding.

There are many roads in pickle on the Mainland for certain gentlemen when they go back to their constituents.

Did any one drop a fifty-cent piece? asked the shabby man in the midst of the crowd watching the safe go up. "No," said they. "But you are an honest man anyway." "And now for the second prize," said the shabby man. "I did not pick up any fifty-cent piece, but I will give you one if you will give me the reward of honesty?"—Indianapolis Journal.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.

TORTURED AND HELPLESS. Rheumatism Has Hordes of Victims, and is no Respector of Persons—South American Rheumatic Cure Resists His Cruel Grasp, and Heals the Wounds He Inflicts—Relief in Six Hours.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF CHARLES H. FITCHER IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. 900 DROPS. AVEGETABLE PREPARATION FOR ASSIMILATING THE FOOD AND REGULATING THE STOMACH AND BOWELS OF INFANTS & CHILDREN.

A DOCTOR WHO VISITS EVERY HOME.

YOU will naturally wonder how a physician can visit every household throughout the country. He does it in this way; this little article goes into every home and through it Doctor Ratcliffe speaks to every family.

Dr. Ratcliffe. 713 FIRST AVENUE, Seattle, Wash. MEN: Are you weak? Do you have emaciated? Do you have pimples? WOMEN: Have you periodical headaches? Do you have bearing-down pains?

Dr. Ratcliffe is also an expert on Gonorrhoea, Stricture, Syphilis, Yaws, Hydrocele, Piles, Rupture, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Blood and Skin Diseases and Diseases of the Eye, Ear, Brain, Nose, Throat, Lungs, Liver, Stomach, Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs.

Look for this Print in the Snow. It is the pattern of the heel of the Granby Rubber and Overshoe. The next time you buy a pair of rubbers or overshoes ask for Granby's and look for this pattern on the heel.

B.C. IRON WORKS CO., LTD. Mining Machinery a Specialty. St. Petersburg, Apr 19.—The mention of an Bulgarian Servia and semi-officially pointed the league being formed for the protection of the gov against Turkey.

FIERCELY Turk and Greek Thrown Aside the of Diplom Edhem Pasha's Troop Milonga Pass Afr Conf ELASSONA, April 19 Turkish army, 9 p.m., mission.—Heavy fight position of the Milon most fatiguing day with ters staff in the Miloum respondent of the Assoc turned here. The ba giving the Turks posse Pass, was wazed with able courage and deterri- sides. The pass rang artillery and the rattle was, however, around place between Turks as

The scene, while the at its height, was exc equi. Edhem Pasha, brilliant staff, was striking group with going and coming The ambushed, in direction bringing in faces were black with ered with blood. Edhem every phase of the field glass giving order reports with impertura It was noticed that mat were scribbled on scarp with blood. The offic were black with the du had not slept, shaved of days and nights. It manding the Turkish a of magnificent prese most masterly skill in p and an hour of the G of many of the dead though asleep.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Apr authorities at Pre the Greek army und numbering about 25 attended by severa which the Greek attle tingued themselves force is now in Epirus. the front receding, the Turks in consider been attacking Rev from Tyrnavo, north which was not adva Damazi Plain. It is Turks were repulle at first dispatch which that the Turks have place.