

such company for example gravely states that the C. P. R. has already decided to make Yukon and Alaskan rail connections.

PROVOKING REPRISALS.

It is stated that some "over zealous Americans" at Skagway, just on the U. S. side of the Yukon country, are holding public meetings and loudly demanding the expulsion under the American Alien Labor laws of all British Columbians working at Skagway under contract for the British Yukon chartered company. These agitating gentry are playing with double edged tools and had better be much more careful than they are, for certes if they enforce their miserably narrow Alien Labor legislation against reputable British subjects at Skagway, they will provoke an irresistible Canadian demand for the restriction to British subjects only of miners' rights in general in the Yukon country. "Reciprocity" may apply to restrictions as well as to favors, and the former application of reciprocity is being brought very much to the front just now in the Canadian mind by the unbounded selfishness which too usually at present marks the public policy of our neighbors in the States. With them, were it not largely for this, we should wish to be nationally as individually on the very best of terms.

USEFUL PROPOSALS.

Messrs. Vivian & Sons, the famous smelting industrialists of Swansea, South Wales, have recently made a standing offer to purchase gold, silver, lead and copper bearing ores and matte for smelting and refining respectively, which should prove of very great service to mine owners in many parts of B. C., more especially to such of them as possess properties in coast or island districts, easily and cheaply reached by water from Vancouver, and also happen at the same time to be possessed of but moderate capital available for development work, which oftentimes proves costly. The offer, as made in a circular letter by Mr. Pellew-Harvey, Messrs. Vivian & Sons' agent in this Province, appears at length in another column, and we need here only briefly advert to it and note some points therein of general public interest. One great advantage of the offer consists in the fact that the very wealthy Welsh firm which makes it, is

prepared, after sufficient test by its agent of proposed ore or matte consignment, to aid the mine owners intending making it, by advancing them at once three-fourths of the purchase value, whilst guaranteeing to ship the ore or matte promptly from Vancouver to Swansea and on its arrival pay the consignors the balance of the purchase money due.

Claim owners will accordingly be under no necessity of "standing long out of their money" but will instead receive it promptly and be thereby enabled to utilise it to advantage in further mining development work. Evidently the visit of the late Lord Swansea--formerly Sir Hussey Vivian--whose family mainly compose the Swansea firm, was productive of good results, inasmuch as to it no doubt in part is due the present businesslike offer.

The first shipments under the scheme--and it is now certain there will be a fair number of them--will be made by the steamship Tekoa which leaves Vancouver early in October, and we hope that there will then be a very good bulk of Coast and Island ore and much matte from the interior thus consigned, as in such case Messrs. Vivian & Sons mean to establish an ore sampler in Vancouver, and to run also in connection with their works a regular freight steamship service between the city and the flourishing port of Swansea, which, by the by, owes much of its growing importance to the enterprise of its leading metal industrialists, notably the Vivians. As hitherto the offer made to set up an ore smelter and refinery in or near Vancouver have either shown themselves to be manifestly bonus hunting speculations or doubtful import or else from other causes failed to mature, the Terminal City seems but too likely to be compelled to wait rather long for the establishment of local precious metal treating industries on a large and substantial scale.

Hence the next best thing--and the proposal will moreover have about it elements of permanent value--is for our Coast and Island mining property owners and the people of Vancouver generally to encourage by all reasonable means the establishment by the Vivians of their proposed ore sampler and steamship service.

We shall speedily learn important news as to the results of a first crushing at Lillooet's pivot free milling gold mine--the Golden Cache. The stamp mill will within a few days be at work on plenty of ore.