PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AND THEIR FAMILY.

UP I T E GOLD MINES

THEY ARE STILL MAKING FINDS IN GOLDEN KOOTENAY.

While Two Rival Railway Companies Will Race for the Boundary Creek Country's Trade—What the Mines Are Doing.

A gentleman who enjoys the confidence of D.C. Corbin, and who was in Nelson a few days since, is authority for the statement that the Corbin system of railways will be extended to the heart of the Boundary creek district at the earliest possible date, says the Nelson Miner.

The present season is liable to witness a most exciting race between Corbin and August Heinze as to which shall be first to build a railway into the Kettle River country.

Mr. Heinze has obtained important assistance from the Provincial Government in the matter of subsidies and is supposed to be on the friendliest terms with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. However, President Corbin of the Spokane Falls & Northern appears to have arrived at the conclusion that the great resources of the Boundary creek country would prove highly profitable to him should he be able to monopolize the transportation business of this district.

The Corbin system at present consists of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard, the Spokane Falls & Northern and the Red Mountain Railways. Each line is owned by a separate corporation, although Mr. Corbin is the controlling factor in all three.

The Miner's informant declares that arrangements are now being made by which these three lines will be consolidated under one company, and the entire property will be covered by a blanket mortgage. The money thus obtained will be used in constructing the Boundary Creek extension. It is expected that New York financiers will be induced to furnish the money so that the work of grading will be commenced this summer.

The proposed extension will run from Northport up Sheep Creek, thence into the Kettle River valley at the southern end of Christina Lake, and so westward to Grand Forks. Mr. Corbin's engineers claim that this is the shortest and most feasible route to the Boundary Creek district.

Engineers of the Columbia & Western Railway have completed their survey for a railway extending from a point opposite Robson, on the Columbia river. The route, after following the banks of the Columbia for a short distance northward, turns to the west, and by a circuitous route winds through the gold range to the southern end of Christina lake. From thence to Grand Forks, the Heinze road will follow the same course as the Corbin line.

The interesting question is: Which railway will be first to reach Kettle River Valley? While President Corbin's route is the shortest, he has not yet raised the necessary funds with which to build his extension. On the other hand, Mr. Heinze has the benefit of fat subsidies from the Provincial Government, and is said to have all financial arrangements completed.

F. L. Fitch, Tom Allan, and Steve Grisby, of Ainsworth, recently made a lucky strike in prospecting along the Fraser River near its junction with the Salmon, says the Spokane Chronicle. Some years ago, while placer mining along the Fraser, Allan discovered a ledge, but did not record it. Several weeks ago a party composed of himself, Fitch and Grisby, started on a prospecting trip for it, and succeeded in locating it. Fitch returned to Kootenay, and reports that it is a big, strong ledge, which can be easily traced for a considerable distance. The ledge carries free milling gold rock, from which assays ranging from $2 to $70 were secured. Allan and Grisby are working on the claim. There are a great many Siwashes washing gold along the Fraser. They use the old-fashioned rocker, but one storekeeper is credited with having purchased $10,000 worth of gold from them this spring.

1—To keep your feet dry on rainy days:—Stand on your head.

THE FIGHTING GRUMBKOFFS.

Grumbkoff Pasha, the German officer who has been playing such a prominent part in the counsels of Edhem Pasha, is a descendant of that famous, or at least notorious, general of the same name who figures so conspicuously in the earlier chapters of Carlyle's "Frederick." That Grumbkoff, a London paper, has discovered, was the chief wire-puller in the Tobacco Parliament of Frederick William, and was the chief perpetrator of the cruel practical jokes that were practised on Jacob Gundling, the omniscient pedant, who sat in the Tabagie as a kind of court fool. Baron Grumbkoff was challenged by the Old Dessauer, and went out to meet his adversary, but instead of offering him satisfaction he offered him his sword with a humble apology—which was only in accord with what Carlyle, who draws a most graphic picture of the man calls "his own astucities and audacities." The Grumbkoffs are a very old Pomeranian family.