PRICE THREE CENTS.

IN CANAL TREATY'S WAY.

ANNUITY FOR COLOMBIA.

A Perplexing Question Which Has Brought Negotiations to a Halt.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 30 .- In the pathway of the Panama Canal negotiations there remains a single obstacle, the question of annuity. Colombia, as was exclusively announced in The Tribune recently, stands on a demand for about \$600,000 as an annual payment from this country. The United States, as was said by one high in government circles to-day, at present offers less than one-quarter of this amount and less than one-half of the original \$250,000 specified in the original protocol. Here, then, the negotiations which proceeded so rapidly after the departure of Senor Concha, the Colombian Minister, have at last come to a dead halt. A difference of \$500,000 in the size of the annuity, and not the trouble incident to the Venezuelan episode, prevented the completion of the treaty and its submission to Congress before the holidays, and this same disagreement prevents its going to the Capitol when the Senate reconvenes on January 5. Every other point has been settled along lines satisfactory to this country.

The question of the size of this annuity is a perplexing one. In the original protocol it was agreed that after a period of fourteen years Colombia was to receive an annual income of \$250,000 in return for waiving a similar sum paid by the Panama Railroad. In addition, a lemp sum of \$7,000,000 was to be paid to Colombia by the United States at the outset. This has been modified so that, under the terms of the present treaty, still in process of negotiation, the United States will pay \$10,000,000 bonus and begin the payment of the annuity after ten years. This wipes out the provision in the protocol which arranged for an increase of annuity to be decided after twelve years by Colombia and the United States, and in case of disagreement to be fixed by a reference to The Hague. Two commissioners were to represent each country and the fifth member to be the president of The Hague tribunal.

AGREEMENT ON OTHER POINTS.

Information reached The Tribune to-day from trustworthy sources that concessions made by Colombia in return for the demand of an increased bonus and annuity were as follows:

First-The difficult and delicate question of sovereignty, which for a long time threatened to break up the negotiations, had been settled by Colombian consent to a century lease, renewable at the pleasure of this country.

Second-That the annuity, instead of being increased after fourteen years, should continue in perpetuity at the rate agreed upon in the present treaty.

Third-That the Panama Railroad, which under existing agreements would revert to the Colombian Government after sixty years, will,

instead, revert to the United States. These are the main points of agreement already reached and successfully passed in each case by the adoption of an arrangement proposed by the United States. Other points in the treaty, such as the delimitation of a six mile zone, the right of the United States to police and administer the strip, and the various other points laid down in the protocol, have all been agreed to, in the main, in the form

included in the protocol.

The removal of all the previous objections to the various articles of the treaty inspired the hope of an early agreement, but when the last point was reached and the question of annuity came up, the absolute halt, which has continued now for several weeks, ensued. The Colombian position, as has been told in The Tribune, rests on a demand for a quid pro quo for the revenue lost by the cession of the isthmus, so far as it is agreed to in the body of the treaty already outlined. The revenues of the republic were called into the question and the Colombian figures were waited for as additional evidence. From the isthmus at the present time Colombia claims to receive about \$500,000 annually. Half of this comes from the yearly payment of the Panama Railroad, and the rest is derived from port dues, lighthouse dues and various other sources of revenue. Moreover, it is alleged that the Colombian Government fears that when the free zone provided for in the treaty is in operation there will be wholesale smuggling along the two new frontiers of nearly fifty miles each opened on either side of the six-mile strip across the isthmus through which the canal is to run. All these considerations, together with certain other matters of value to the Colombians, seem to have combined to influence them in demanding about \$500,000 for a return on the revenue now derived.

In Colombia, according to letters received from commercial sources, this is receiving the closest attention. The proposition as it is advanced there is a plain and simple demand on the United States to assure to Colombia a revenue she now possesses, together with a small sum as a return for the relinquishment of this income for a period of ten years-an income which, in the case of the Panama Railroad alone, will amount to \$2,500,000. In the Spooner act, which authorized the President to acquire a strip not less than six miles wide for the canal, no price was fixed, nor was there any mention of an annuity. The exact words of this act

That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to acquire from the republic of Colombia upon such terms as he may deem reasonable.

STATE DEPARTMENT NOT ALARMED.

An appropriation of \$10,000,000, however, was made toward the project. The negotiations between the representatives of Colombia and Secretary Hay now hinge on the question as to what sum is likely to strike Congress as a reasonable annuity. The United States and Colombia are at present about \$500,000 at variance in their estimates of this amount. Apprehension as to the action Congress is likely to take and the long protraction of the negotiations seem

not to have created any serious anxiety in the mind of the State Department. Perhaps the most serious contingency now existing lies in Colombia rather than in Congress. In official circles the return of Senor Concha to Colombia is awaited with a considerable degree of interest not unmixed with apprehension. While in charge of the negotiations Señor Concha acquired some violent prejudices against the American position and terms, and it is believed that he will signalize his return to Colombia by an instant and vigorous effort to arouse a strong sentiment in the country and in the Congress against any treaty drawn on the lines at present laid down. Moreover, an intelligent observer of South American matters pointed out to The Tribune to-day that the result of the demonstrations made by Great Britain and Germany in Venezuelan waters would

serve to remind the Colombians of the inter-WHEN THE GOTHAMITE TRAVELS he wants speed, safety, comforts and conveniences. These are provided by the Pennsylvania, the 29-hour fiver to Chicago.—Advt.



THE LUNCHEON YESTERDAY TO DR. LORENZ AT THE HARDWARE CLUB.

national value of the property they have to

"A rejection of the treaty offered by the United States might in due course of time," said he. "be followed by the granting of a more liberal concession to the present French canal company, or even by an attempt to dispose of it to Germany, which is commercially a much greater factor in South America than the United States.

In the mean time the negotiations have lapsed during the holidays, and there seems little probability of a renewal of them in time to bring the matter before the Senate when it reconvenes. This does not mean that there is any absolute break-in the negotiations, but it does mean that the representatives of both countries have reached a point of difference which can only be settled by concession, and as yet both sides are unwilling to back down. From now on, however, it is believed here that Colombia will displace Venezuela in its claims on official in-

An additional source of worry arising from information received from Colombia exists in the possibility of a rejection of the treaty by the Colombian Congress after it has been ratified here. There is no question that Colombia expects to receive the sum she asks for, or, at least, so much of it as she can show to be actual receipts in present revenue. To sign a treaty which contained a provision for an annuity less than half as large as the sum now paid by the Panama Railrod would be, in the opinion of South Americans in this city, tantamount to insuring not merely its tumultuous rejection by the Colombian Congress, but would also be calculated to bring down ruin on the head of the

ALDERMEN TO LORENZ.

Resolutions Presented at City Hall.

LUNCHEON AT THE HARDWARE CLUB.

There was a farewell reception to Dr. Adolf Lorenz at the City Hall yesterday afternoon, following a luncheon at the Hardware Club. dent Fornes of the Board of Aldermen, Borough Attorney Jerome. Among other guests were two war against Christianity. representatives of the firm of Armour & Co., of Chicago, who had come to this city to bid farewell to the great surgeon.

A large number of people surrounded Dr. Lorenz in the Governors' Room in the City Hall at 3:30 p. m., when the resolutions were presented to him. Alderman Walkley read an address, in part as follows:

Professor Adolf Lorenz, the members of the legis-lative body of the city of New-York noted with pleasure your arrival upon these shores, and have watched with interest your journeyings and work among us. You came from a country which has given the world many great men-men illustrious in war, in letters, in art and science. Among the living you have attained high eminence. Your fame pre-ceded you. You were a welcome guest, for you came upon an errand of mercy—to give grace to deform ity, hope to the despairing. You have left sunshine in your pathway, and a halo of giory surrounds you.

in your pathway, and a halo of glory surrounds you. The good we do lives after us. Our better thoughts are the inspiration of every life; good deeds, the aspiration of every soul seeking true greatness. These are the rounds of the ladder which Jacob saw reaching from earth up beyond sun and stars to the throne of the Eternal. By these we climb from the finite to the Infinite.

As you go out of the gates of the continent, which a little time ago were open to receive you, and embark upon your homeward voyage, you bear with you the love of our people, and may He who holds the seas in the hollow of His hand bring you safely to home and friends and native land.

Alderman Sullivan then added some words of praise for Dr. Lerenz and presented to him the engrossed resolutions, and at that moment a photograph was taken. In his reply Dr. Lorenz said:

when I first put my foot on this soil three months ago. I had a sense of oppression because of the greatness of this place. A feeling of clumsiness came upon me. I had no idea then of the magnificent leave-taking you have prepared for me in this hour. Nor could I have any idea of the reception that would meet me everywhere in this country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. In olden times the freedom of cities used to be given to princes and victorious warriors. To-day you are conferring the freedom of the city upon a poor and humble physician. This makes me think of the great changes that have taken place in the last few centuries. Not only princes are honored to-day, but every man whose work tends to benefit mankind is, in your eyes, worthy of this honor. I take it gratefully from your hands. Need I assure you that this document will be the most precious reward of my efforts?

This token of your esteem is a proof that in America wealth and position are not esteemed higher than work done for the relief of suffering humanity. This token of your esteem is a further proof that this city is not only unique in its wealth, but also unique in its charities. I rejoice in this great honor all the more because I am far from regarding it as a personal one; but I am proud to belong to a profession to which this honor is due. In honoring me you have honored the profession. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and I assure you that I leave your glorious country with great regret, and with the highest admiration for America and American people.

and American people. Dr. Lorenz's remarks were loudly cheered, and for about ten minutes before leaving the City Hall a large crowd surrounded him and shook him by the hand.

DR. LORENZ READY TO SAIL.

Dr. Adolf Lorenz arrived at the pier at 12:40 this orning and went immediately on board the Celwhich he sails to-day. He was accompanied

tic. on which he sails to-day. He was accompanied by Dr. Müller and Dr. Joseph Brittauer and Mrs. Brittauer. Dr. Müller will sail with Dr. Lorenz. Last evening Dr. Lorenz went to the Savoy Theatre and saw "The Girl with the Green Eyes." He said, after he reached the steamer:

"I have already made my farewell speech at City Hall. Next winter I expect to return to this side of the Atlantic. I will go to the West Indies, anyway, and hope to come to this country. I have enjoyed my visit here immensely. The American people are wonderful in every way. The women are beautiful. American journalism is the most wonderful I have ever known. I had to go to the theatre on my last night here to say goodby to your beautiful theatres. I enjoyed the play immensely.

WARS AND WAR RUMORS.

THE MOROCCO TROUBLE. Venezuelan Question in Background

-A Trust of Trusts.

(Special to The New-York Tripune by French Cable.) London, Dec. 31.-The Morocco question is a poor substitute for the Venezuelan affair as a matter of public interest. The necessity for sending several British ships to the coast of Morocco is recognized as a consequence of having a fleet in the Mediterranean, but every journal which discusses the situation protests against the premature intervention of European powers. The only new feature in the dispatches yesterday was evidence that the Sultan of Morocco, before barricading the palace and having recourse to extreme measures of defence against the Moorish Pretender, had made an unsuccessful attempt to break out from Fez. This was an indication that the Sultan's position was more desperate than it had appeared at the ontset

Excitement is increasing in Madrid, where the security of the remnant of the Spanish empire is believed to be seriously menaced, and where the dispatch of troops as well as vessels of war is under consideration.

There is more self-possession in Paris, where little anxiety is manifested respecting the spread of fanaticism from Morocco to the French possessions, and where also there is a wholesome dread of its consequences, converting the question of intervention into a European complication. France and Spain can easily control the situation, but it will be difficult to keep Germany and Italy out, and the British Government from force of habit will adopt precautionary naval measures, although its interest in what goes on at Morocco cannot be easily defined.

The remnant of the Spanish navy is not in condition for active operation on the coast, and it is doubtful if more than a half dozen yessels The luncheon was informal, and was tendered to can be mustered in the next month. The army Dr. Lorenz by Aldermen Walkley, Sullivan and is in a better state, and reinforcements can be Stewart, the committee appointed to present to dispatched to the garrisons in Northern Africa him the engrossed resolutions recently passed by without delay. The Pretender, while passing the Board of Aldermen. Among the officials in- himself off as a brother of the Sultan, is a vited to the luncheon were Mayor Low, Presi- rough and ready soldier who has taken up arms against the European influences prevail-President Canton, Controller Grout and District ing in the court, and has incidentally proclaimed

The annual report of the British Consul at Stüttgart on trade at Würtemburg has attracted considerable attention here, owing to the light which it throws on the trust question in Germany. The consul remarks that trusts have increased to such a degree and extent in their operations that the imperial government has decided to institute an investigation into their formation, organization and effects upon trade. The final results will be made known in a special official publication, and eagerly awaited by those interested on both sides.

In the mean while, the principal German trusts are taking steps to form a combination of all trusts in the empire which is for the present to be affiliated with the Association of German Manufacturers.

The first step of the trust's association will probably be to influence any State legislation which it may deem inimical to its interests.

It is stated that Mr. Carnegie has intimated to the Provost of Greenock that he is prepared to present the sum of £10,000 to defray the cost of the erection of a memorial to James Watt in recognition of his engineering achievements. or that he is willing to head a movement in America to raise a large fund, which, added to that which might be obtained in Great Britain, would provide a greater scheme.

Yesterday was a comparatively quiet day at Delhi after the prilliant scenes on Monday, but at the opening of the Arts Exhibition, which had been gathered together there by great efforts, the Viceroy made a clever and entertaining speech on art, deploring the tendency of the present day toward the cheap, tawdry and comfortable. Delhi is now a centre of rank and fashion, and resembles London at the height of the season more than an ancient Indian city. There are no very special ceremonies to-day, but all will be prepared for the great Durbar proper to-

Early in the new year the Anglo-American Tobacco Trust will begin its long planned campaign for a conquest of the German tobacco trade, which it is preparing. A coupon premium scheme on an enormous scale is planned, and it will introduce that system of business into Germany for the first time. "The Daily Mail" correspondent at Berlin says that the German tobacco industry is panic-stricken at prospect of such competition.

Winifred Arthur Jones, who has appeared to good advantage in several of her father's plays, was married yesterday to Leslie Faber at St. George's, Hanover Square. The ceremony was conducted by Archdeacon Sinclair, and was witnessed by a large company of actors and literary people. There were two pages in Louis XV costume, and four bridesmaids. There was a large wedding reception at the house of Henry Arthur Jones. There will be scores of military weddings in the next six weeks, the Secretary for War himself leading off Monday. I. N. F.

\$250,000 FOR HAMLINE UNIVERSITY. Minneapolis, Dec. 30.-The board of trustees of Hamline University announce that an endowment of \$250,000 for the university has been raised, principally in Minnesota. James J. Hill, and M. G. and J. L. Norton of Winona, gave large sums.

GOING TO CALIFORNIA New on sale. Best guide to New-York City. Over 600 pages. Cloth bound only, 50 cents.—Advt. formation at 401 Broadway.—Advt.

WHITE AND BACKUS OUT

Friction in the Civil Service Reform Association.

OTHER RESIGNATIONS EXPECTED

Alfred T. White and Dr. Truman J. Backus, of Brooklyn, respectively a vice-president and executive committeeman of the Civil Service Reform Association, of which Carl Schurz is president, have resigned their official positions in the association on account of the attacks made by Secretary Elliot H. Goodwin, of the Reform Association, on the Municipal Civil Service Commission. It is rumored that ex-Mayor Schleren and Robert C. Ogden, also prominent in the association, will resign for the same reason in a few days.

When Mr. Goodwin was seen at the offices of the association, No. 41 Wall-st., yesterday, he said:

"It is true that Mr. White and Dr. Backus have resigned. Mr. White was a vice-president. He did not care to be in any degree responsible for the public criticisms of the local commission made by this association, and for that reason withdrew. He has not resigned from the asso-

"Yes, I have resigned as vice-president of the association," said Mr. White. "Mr. Goodwin has accurately stated the case. I regarded as deplorable the strife between the association and the commission, and did not wish to appear responsible for it."

Mr. White and Carl Schurz are long time friends, and it was a matter of great regret to him to resign his office.

It was learned last night that the attacks on the local commission have angered many of Mayor Low's friends in the Reform Associa-The prevailing feeling seems to be that Colonel Willis L. Ogden, president of the Municipal Commission, has an exceedingly difficult task under existing laws in managing the work of the commission, and that he ought to be supported instead of criticised. Some of the members of the association are inclined to attribute the present friction to the recent retirement of George McAneny as secretary of the com-It is said that Colonel Ogden practically forced Mr. McAneny out of office, and that the latter's friends in the Reform Association felt greatly hurt over it.

More resignations from the executive comexpected. The committee includes dum found in one of his pockets, which read as the following: Samuel P. Avery, H. de Forest Baldwin, William Brookfield, C. C. Burlingham, Silas W. Burt, Edward Cary, Charles Collins, Horace E. Deming, Samuel B. Donnelly, J. Warren Greene, Dr. A. Jacobi, Franklin B. Lord, Samuel H. Ordway, George Foster Peabody, William Jay Schieffelin, the Rev. Thomas R. Slicer, Henry Sanger Snow, Anson Phelps Stokes, Henry W. Taft, William H. Thomson, Charles W. Watson and Everett P. Wheeler. The chairman is Jacob F. Miller.

SULTAN PENNED IN FEZ.

Attempt to Escape from City Foiled -No Foreigners Apply.

Madrid, Dec. 30 .- It is reported that the Sultan of Morocco has been foiled by the rebels who are infesting Fez in an attempt to break out of that city.

A dispatch from Tangier, Morocco, to-day announced that the rebels had cut the aqueduct which supplied Fez with water, and added that the city was now practically without water. It was further asserted that unless the Kabyle tribermen from the south come to the succor

of Fez the place must surrender within three days. Great Britain and France have notified Spain that they have no intention of taking any advantage of the situation in Morocco, and that they desire the maintenance of the status quo, even in the event of the Sultan being dethroned and his place taken by the pretender. These communications have reassured the Spanish

international complications. The revolt against the Sultan is spreading in Fez. The Moors are exhibiting photographs of him arrayed in a ridiculous garb. The Sultan yesterday assembled the men of high rank of the besleged town at the palace and exhorted: them not to despair, assuring the chiefs that the imperial troops will ultimately triumph.

Government, which is thus relieved of fears of

THE SULTAN HARD PRESSED.

Madrid, Dec. 30.-Telegrams received here from Tangier say that the Sultan's troops have abandoned the fortress of Raselma, close to Fez. The Pretender is negotiating with the tribes in the immediate vicinity of Fez to assist his advance.

The Spanish Minister at Tangier reports the ituation to be serious, but not desperate. The Cabinet met in Madrid at a late hour tonight. After the meeting Foreign Minister Abarzuza expressed a more hopeful view of the Moroccan situation. He said he thought it not likely that the rebels would capture Fez. Pre-mier Silvela confirmed the belief that no comications would ensue through the actions of

RETIREMENT OF JUSTICE SHIRAS.

Washington, Dec. 30. - Associate Justice Shiras, of the United States Supreme Court. will retire some time this winter. The date has not yet been fixed, and cannot be until certain cases which have been argued and others which have been set for reargument have been disposed of. Justice Shiras, however, will retire at the present session of Congress, in order that his successor may be confirmed before adjournment.

"THE BUFFALO LIMITED." a second edition of the Empire State Express, leaves New-York daily 12:50 p. m., due Buffalo 11:00 p. m., by New-York Central.—Advt.

DEATH IN THE ELEVATED JAM.

METALLURGIST SUCCUMBS TO APOPLEXY IN A NINTH-AVE. TRAIN.

State Railroad Commissioners Start Plan to Relieve Crush After Inquiry in City Hall.

APOPLEXY FROM CRUSH. PUSH TRAFFIC INQUIRY.

"L" Train-Reserves Called.

After struggling through a dense crowd at the Rector-st. station of the Ninth-ave. elevated line, and securing standing room near the centre of a car that was packed to the doors, Charles Wessel, of No. 251 West Eighty-seventh-st., a well known metallurgist, dropped dead yesterday afternoon in the train just as it had reached Liberty-st. and was about to enter the Cortlandt-st. station. The greatest excitemen followed Mr. Wessel's death, and it seemed at first as if there would be a panic. When he fell, Mr. Wessel carried down an old woman, who had been standing behind him, but she was not injured. He gave a sudden gasp and dropped backward.

Mr. Wessell was sixty-seven years old, and weighed 225 pounds. Noting the excitement in the centre of the car, curious people tried to push in that direction from the ends of the car, and those who stood near him were unable to lift the man up. When the train ran up to the station the platform of the latter was crowded. The guards on the train had been signalled not to open the gates, and there was a wild scramble at first, many men trying to jump over them. The guards shouted to one of the guards on the station platform to call a policeman. Patrolman Wynne, of the Churchst. station, was found in Greenwich-st. When he reached the platform and saw the crowd he thought that a fight was in progress. He drew his club and made his way to the car in which Mr. Wessel had died. On being informed that a man had died in the car Wynne sent for Patrolman Woolley.

The train had then been detained for three minutes, and the crowd on the platform was steadily increasing. All were crowding forward, eager to learn what had happened. Wynne saw that two policemen were not enough, so he sent Woolley to the Church-st. station for the reserves. Six men were sent by Sergeant Carson, One of the policemen was stationed at the bottom of the steps leading up to the station to prevent any more people crowding up, and the others cleared a way through the station and the platform to the car. The body was then taken out with much difficulty.

In the mean time an ambulance had been summoned from the Hudson-st. Hospital. Dr. Cocke examined the body in the station and said that death was due to apoplexy.

The body was carried down the station steps and placed in the patrol wagon of the Churchst. station. It required four men to carry the body down and place it in the wagon. The crowd in the street had increased to 400 people, all complaining at the delay and anxious to get home. The trains had been delayed about seven minutes

The station agent and many passengers praised the work of Patrolman Wynne and complimented him on his quick action in calling the reserves. Had he not done so, it is probable that there would have been serious results from the crushing.

Mr. Wessel's body was taken to the Church-st, station. He was identified through a memoran-

"I want my twenty thousand-share certificate in the International Smelting and Refining Company divided as follows: Four certificates 2,000 shares each; ten certificates, 1,000 shares each; four certificates, 500 shares each; eighteen certificates in all. CHARLES WESSEL." This was dated December 9, 1902, at No. 251 West Eighty-seventh-st.

Mr. Wessel was returning from a trip to sembled silver and still would stand hard usage. He lived with his wife and a sister. He had two children, Charles A., a piano manufacturer, daughter, the wife of Dr. Roger Mead, of Pitts-

Mr. Wessel was a member of the Holland Soclety and had been active in the Dutch Reformed Church in Seventy-seventh-st. He was connected with the Riverside (N. J.) Metal Company, the International Smelting and Refining Company, of Philadelphia, and the American Nickel Steel Company, of Pittsburg.

WOMAN FAINTS ON A PLATFORM.

Considerable excitement was caused in a crowd of women shoppers on the uptown platform of the Sixth-ave, elevated line at Twentythird-st. yesterday by the fainting of a woman. An ambulance from the New-York Hospital took her away. She was Miss Augusta Johnston, thirty-five years, of No. 253 West Onehundred-and-fifty-third-st. The woman soon recovered and went home.

COLOMBIAN ARMY REDUCED.

Panama, Dec. 30.-The Colombian army, by the recent national decree, has been reduced to fifty thousand men. The government commissioners have received up to date from the surrendered revolutionists 23 field pieces, 6,823 rifles and over 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition, not counting that on board the steamers. The censorship on cable messages has been

abolished. BRAZIL EXTRADITION TREATY PASSED. Rio Janiero, Dec. 30-The protocol of the extra-

dition treaty between Brazil and the United States has unanimously passed both houses here.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 30.-The Iyo Maru reached ort this afternoon with five thousand tons eral cargo for the United States. She brought news of a tragedy following a riot of Chinese coolles de-

COOLIES SHOT AT SINGAPORE.

tained at Singapore in immigrant sheds. Two of the police were captured and held by the Chinese on the top floor of the immigrant station, and when the police attempted to rescue them, the Chinese fired upon them, killing two and wounding one. Thirty Chinese were wounded before the policemen

Seldom if ever in any one year of the history of the world have so many important events of unit versal interest taken place. America, England, Germany and France have each participated. The President of the United States welcomed and entertained H. R. H. Prince Henry of Prussia at the White House. Edward the VII was crowned King of England and Emperor of India, the German Emperor had hir American built yacht "Meteor" peror had hir American built yacht "Meteor" christened. France had the unveiling of the Rochambeau Statue, and at all functions attending these celebrations Moet & Chandon Champagne was used exclusively. This indeed is aff unparalleled record which is proof positive of the superiority and popularity of the renowned brand of Moet & Chandon White Seal.—(Advt. TRIUMPHS OF 1902.

Panic Nearly Follows Tragedy in State Board in Earnest-Rigid Investigation Started.

> The State Railroad Commission had a meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel late yesterday afternoon, and began an investigation of the local transportation problem with the intention of keeping at the inquiry several days. As one of the commissioners said last evening to a Tribune reporter, the hearing at the City Hall had left the commission with several charge on its hands without evidence to support then The commission in ends to collect sufficient evi dence either to support the charges or to dis prove them. At the same time the inquiry will be directed to the point of ascertaining, if possible, how the transportation companies can be compelled to increase or improve the facilities for travel in the city.

> The commission called before it yesterday afternoon Alfred Skitt, vice-president and general manager of the Manhattan Elevated Railway Company; Charles A. Gardiner, of the company's ounsel, and Superintendent Smith, who has general charge of the train service on the elevated roads in Manhattan and The Bronx. At the request of the commission, Mr. Skitt and his associates produced books and train sheets to show the number of trains run on the different elevated lines at each hour of the day, the number of employes on the trains and the num ber of passengers carried. They were plied with questions about the withdrawal of some trains at certain hours of the lay, the running of short trains on the Sixth ave. line, the number of trains that can be run over the different ines with safety, the minimum headway required for safety and other n atters involved in the elevated railroad service,

The investigation was conducted behind closed loors. Before it was adjourned for the day the commissioners had collected a large mass of detailed information for study. It is possible that the officials of the elevated roads may be called before the commissioners at a later day to make some additional explanations.

This morning the commissioners will have before them H. H. Vreeland and other officials of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, and will go into a searching investigation of the transportation facilities afforded by the surface lines in Manhattan. This investigation may consume a good part of the day, but it will be conducted privately, as the commissioners want to have an opportunity to examine the books showing the car service on each of several The commissioners will make personal observations of crowded cars at different hours of the day, and will watch the passage of cars at certain centres of congestion.

"I do not think that the commission will hold any further public hearings," Colonel Dunn said last evening, "but we shall stay here until the end of the week and keep up the investigation. I believe we shall be able to get some solution of the worst difficulties in the situation. Our decisions may not be reached for several days, but we shall try to get for the travelling public in the city relief from overcrowding at the earliest moment possible."

RELIEF SOON, SAYS COLE.

Hearing at City Hall on "L" Road Congestion.

The State Railroad Commission listened at the City Hall yesterday morning to complaints Philadelphia. He invented a process of treating about the inadequate local transportation sereast iron and steel in such a manner that it re- vice, and to suggestions for relief. At the close of the hearing, Chairman Ashley W. Cole of the commission announced that there was to be a continuation of the inquiry. "We believe we of No. 340 West Eighty-seventh-st., and a can reach a result," he said, "affecting the question of some immediate relief within a few days. Certainly we shall be prepared to make recommendations at an early date."

> The hearing was in response to a formal complaint from F. G. Weeks against the system of the Manhattan Elevated Railroad. chants' Association was represented by William F. King and the rest of the committee on franchises and transportation, and by the executive committee of the legal committee, headed by Theron G. Strong. There were also present Robert Fulton Cutting and a committee from the Citizens Union; Theodore Sutro, for the United Real Estate Owners' Association; Joseph L. O'Brien, for the Harlem Property Owners' Association, and Joseph A. Goulden and Tax Commissioner James L. Wells, as representatives of the travelling public of The Bronx.

> The women's societies, which have been so prominent in the agitation against the present system of transportation, were represented by Mrs. Mary G. Trautmann and Mrs. John H. Judge, of the Women's Health Protective Association, and Mrs. Wilson, of the West End. Women's Association.

For the street railroads interested appeared President H. H. Vreeland of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, Oren Root and H. A. Robinson, and for the Manhattan Railway Company, Vice-President Alfred Skitt and C. A. Gardiner, attorney.

The board met, declared Commissioner Cole, in a "semi-judicial capacity to consider the shocking conditions that undoubtedly do exist." The commissioner then affirmed the power of the board to better conditions, as was shown by the extracts from the General Laws printed in yesterday's Tribune. "The board," declared the commissioner, "has ample power to do all that is needed to be done, and will not hesitate to use that power."

The first speaker, Mr. Strong, of the executive committee of the legal committee that is assisting the Merchants' Association, referred to the proposed discussion of surface traffic to take place next Tuesday, and said that he wished to pay at the present hearing more particular attention to the elevated lines. He continued:

It is a matter of public history that the ele-vated roads in this city have been conducted in the most niggardly and parsimonious fashion. They have been insufficiently lighted and heated. They have been overcrowded. They are danger-

In sudden cases of Croup, and other alarmin affections of the Throat and Lungs, Doctor I Jayne's Expectorant is invaluable. It often prove an elixir of life when death seems very near.— Advt.

FIRST CLASS TRAVEL REQUIRES the services of a maid for the benefit of lady pas-sengers. Such services are provided on the Pen-sylvania Special.—Advt.