

ASKS \$125,000 REPARATION.

Coal Company Alleges That Roads Have Overcharged It.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—A demand for \$125,000 reparation, with interest, the largest amount the Inter-State Commerce Commission has ever been called upon to grant, is made in a complaint filed today with that body by Henry E. Meeker, as surviving partner of Meeker & Co., Pennsylvania anthracite coal dealers, who ship principally to the New York market, against the Erie, Susquehanna & Western and Wilkesbarre & Eastern Railroad Companies.

The commission is requested to fix a reasonable joint rate for the transportation of coal by the defendant carriers between the anthracite coal region in Pennsylvania and Edgewater and Weehawken, N. J.

The complainant declares that a reasonable rate for such service would be not in excess of \$1 per ton, and says that from July 2, 1906, to June 28 last he shipped about 236,122 tons of anthracite coal over the defendant lines from the **Ridgewood Breaker**, in the anthracite region, to tidewater at Edgewater and Weehawken, N. J., upon which the rates were \$1.60 per ton for 162,782 tons; \$1.45 for 20,272 tons, \$1.30 for 25,698 tons, and \$1.15 for 27,272 tons, which, it is declared, constitute a total overcharge of at least \$125,000.

It is charged that since Dec. 27, 1906, the defendants have refused and still refuse to deliver to the complainant coal transported for him except upon the payment of excessive rates.

AUTO TRUCKS FOR RAILROAD.

The Pennsylvania Introduces Them to Carry Baggage Across Ferries.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has introduced a time saver in handling baggage through the use of high power electric trucks, which are being used between the baggage cars in Jersey City and the Twenty-third Street station on this side.

The trucks are loaded to their full capacity and are raised and lowered between the ferry level on elevators. The electric power does away with the manual labor formerly necessary to push loaded trucks up the heavy grades at the approach to the ferries at certain stages of the tide.