

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31st 1902. A happy new Year

with the investigations by the commis-sion appointed by President Roosevelt to inquire into the troubles in the an-thracite coal regions of Pennsylvania. Much of the testimony is mislead,ng and contradictory. A notable instance of this kind was given bart work. of this kind was given last week. Ev-idence had been presented showing that the miners are so poorly paid that they send their children, both that they send their children, both boys and girls, to work at an early age. Thus it was proved that girls under twelve years of age worked all night in silk factories because their fathers, who were employed in the coal mines, could not support their fami-lies. To meet this striking allegation the coal mine owners put in as an ev-idence a statement showing that the father of one of the girls earned with one laborer \$1,400 in one year, and that. another with one laborer earned \$1,600. A more complete answer ap-\$1,600. A more complete answer ap-parently could not be made, and the commissioners, if the matter rested there, would be justified in finding that

ment may be arrived at .. In the mean

ficiently calculated to promote var iance and ill-feeling. ian minister of foreign affairs, has made the following statement— "Venezuela agrees to pay all her debts, the pay-ments to be guaranteed by a certain percentage of the customs receipts or by the flotation of a special loan, also to be guaranteed. I believe the pro-posal to submit the issue to The Hacue will be accentable to President Hague will be acceptable to President Castro."

Mr. J. E. Lloyd is moving this week