

[May 13, 1902]

COL. M'KEE'S MILLIONS

No One Yet Qualified to Collect Rents of Testator's Six Hundred Houses

Despite the fact that nearly six weeks have elapsed since the death of Colonel John McKee, the eccentric colored man who devised the bulk of his estate, estimated at between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000, towards the founding and maintenance of a naval training school for white and colored youths, under the supervision of Archbishop Ryan and attorney and attorney Joseph P. McCullen, nothing whatever has been done in the contest instituted by his daughter and other relatives to test the validity of the wills. Shortly after the caveats were filled, the contestants filed the bond as required by law, and it devolved upon the attorneys interested in the matter to apply to the Register for a hearing, but no such application has yet been made. In the meantime, the tenants of dwellings and stores included in the estate, which are said to number about six hundred, have paid no rents, simply because there is no individual or trust company qualified to receive the same.

On this account it is said the estate will lose a large revenue, as the houses in question are occupied by the poorest classes, mostly colored people, who will be unable to make up the arrearages when a demand is finally made upon them for the money due.

Register Singer stated to-day that no application had yet been made to him either to fix a time for hearing in the contest proceedings or for the appointment of an administrator pendente lite. He had heard nothing whatever on these subjects from the counsel representing the will and the contestants and was powerless to act until such a step was taken.