

Subscribed and sworn to before me this — day of
March, 1892. HORACE W. UPPERMAN,

Notary Public.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
and my national seal of office on the day and year last
above written. HORACE W. UPPERMAN,

Notary Public District of Columbia.

The complainants attempted to make up their case
by offering the following proof, to-wit:

That in the following named cities the prices opposite them are charged for annual rent:

Albany, \$40; Buffalo, \$40-72; Syracuse, \$36; Dayton, \$36-60; Toledo, \$36-60; Cincinnati, \$50-120; Columbus, \$60; Pittsburgh, \$100; Richmond, \$60.

A deduction was sought to be made from these facts that the telephone rates charged in Baltimore city were excessive, but they utterly failed to show that the condition of telephone service in said cities were identical with those in Baltimore. In other words, when the petitioners endeavored to show that the rates charged in Baltimore city were excessive, and should be lowered by reason of comparison with the rates and charges made in other cities, it was obviously incumbent upon them to show that all the conditions attending the telephone service were similar—the cost of plant, the kind of service, in fact all the conditions surrounding it ought to be shown. This the petitioners utterly failed to do, and in no other way have said complainants attempted to show that the rates charged in Baltimore city are excessive and extortionate.

Your committee is pleased to state that the telephone companies offered to submit to the examination and scrutiny of the committee, their private books and records, instead of which, by reason of a lack of time, a sworn abstract taken from them was furnished your committee and is filed herewith.

Your committee beg leave to assure the House that in the consideration of this subject, they have striven to ascertain the rights of both parties in interest, and to determine the matter in a manner which shall not be unfair to either.