

assignment of all their interests for \$500 each. Before these gentlemen had made this assignment, and while they understood they had some interest in the matter, they were approached by other gentlemen who offered them very large sums of money, which they refused.

Mr. Blakistone. It does show what the gentleman has stated, and it shows what has been denied emphatically from the beginning by Mr. Brock, his associates and friends at Annapolis.

Gov. Pratt. Denied where and when?

Mr. Blakistone. Wait until I state what it is, and perhaps you will be able better to understand what it is. That he was an ignorant and innocent purchaser, and that in fact this grant was made—

The Chairman. Do you propose to prove what now you are going to state?

Mr. Blakistone. Yes, sir; the proof is before you; that this grant was not made to Travers & Co.; but it was made to Brock & Co., under the cover of their names.

The Witness. No, sir.

Mr. Blakistone. You stated that the grant was to be made for Philadelphia capital.

The Witness. No, sir; that the capital was to be furnished by the city of Philadelphia, but not the grant was to be made to Philadelphians.

By *Mr. Gordon*, (To witness.) Question. You say you received no consideration for this assignment?

Answer. I did not consider it so.

Question. Do you know whether there was any understanding between the assignees and any of the grantees, by which the grantees were to receive any portion of the stock of the company, or anything else?

Answer. No, sir; excepting what I have heard from other grantees. I was not privy to any arrangement between any of the other grantees or anybody else.

Question. Was there any arrangement that you know of by which any further consideration was to be given to the grantees, or any of them?

Answer. No, sir.

By *the Chairman*. Question. Was your interview with Mr. Cameron prior to the assignment?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Had you reason to believe that he made that overture in good faith?

Answer. I had no reason to doubt it at all. I think it proper also to state that there have been sweeping charges of fraud made against both the grantees and all the parties in fact connected with this affair, embracing members of the City Council. I desire to say in that connection that I have no knowledge whatever of any consideration of any description, either in the way of promise or otherwise, being offered to any member of the City Council, for his vote or his influence in the passage of this grant.

Mr. Blakistone. No one believes that any person would be rash enough to propose such a thing to you.

The Witness. It has been charged.

Mr. Blakistone. Not upon you.

Gov. Pratt. It was charged upon the grantees.

The Witness. Yes, sir; and I was one of the grantees. It has been stated in several of the newspapers of Baltimore that this was the case, and these statements found their way before the public, that the grantees were guilty of fraud, and I was one of the grantees.

By *Gov. Pratt*. Question. What was the reason assigned by Mr. Cameron for his desire to appear in this matter, or did he assign any?

Answer. The conversation I had with him led me to believe—while from his character I should suppose that it was in relation to the profits of the con-