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the City at public auction that year for \$960.00; that his stall was on the side of the market and that the annual rent and license at that time amounted to \$18.00.

(R. 43-44) This witness thought the value of his stall at the time he testified - October, 1913 - was about the same as when he bought it. (R. 46)

Still another witness in the same case, Henry F. Reifle, testified that he had been in the Lexington Market since 1857. He acquired his stall, as near as he could remember, about 1863; he purchased it for \$6500.00 from his mother, and his mother had obtained it from his father; he did not know how his father had obtained it.

"Q. How far back, if you are able to tell the Court, did your father acquire the stall your mother derived from him and you bought from her?

A. I can only say this, that it is my firm belief his father got it sometime before I was born, how long I do not know.

Q. You were born in 1838 and you think your father owned that stall before you were born?

A. I am almost positive of that.

Q. Now, do you remember any public auction sales of stalls in the Lexington Market?

A. I knew of them at the time; probably attended them, but I have no recollection any more what they brought or who bought them.

Q. You remember the city did hold public auction sales of stalls in these markets?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And these stalls brought pretty good sums of money?

A. Some years ago.

Q. What are stalls worth now as compared with the time you bought yours?

A. I am not familiar with others. My own stall some eight months ago I was offered \$2,500 for it, but it was without solicitation. I did not ask them to buy it.

Q. And you paid \$8,500. for it?

A. Yes, sir." (R. 50-51)

The sales of these market stalls were subsequently confirmed and ratified by ordinance of the City (Baltimore City Code 1927, Article 27, Section 135; Baltimore City Code 1908, Article 26, Section 114).