

looses any of the advantages of its geographical position by such discrimination.

Witness—The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has discriminated in favor of Baltimore, so far as our business is concerned.

Mr. Vickers—If the witness does not know the quota of rates, we don't know whether our geographical position is discriminated against or not.

Mr. Garrett—You have intercourse with merchants in the same department of business in New York. What is their feeling about these differences which the company has maintained the city of Baltimore against New York?

Witness—They have always spoken of these differences as maintaining a considerable advantage in our favor, and in fact, it is with them a matter of serious difficulty.

Mr. Garrett—Do you know the cause of the contest after the breaking up of the St. Nicholas contract?

Witness—I cannot say that I know particularly, but I have heard the differences frequently spoken of in New York, as our advantage which we possess in Baltimore and it is a common argument with the packagemen of Baltimore, that we can sell goods to cost less delivered in the West than they can. Our market being limited, we have to make exertions to maintain the trade.

*William F. Murdoch* called and sworn:

Mr. Garrett—Are you a merchant, sir?

Witness—I am, sir.

Mr. Garrett—Engaged in what department of trade?

Witness—In the domestic package business, somewhat similar to that of the last witness.

Mr. Garrett—Will you please state to the Committee your knowledge of the policy of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company under the present administration, in connection with discrimination in favor of the business of Baltimore and its effect upon the dry goods trade of Baltimore?

Witness—My answer to that would be more negative than anything very positive. I certainly have not heard a single complaint for sometime of any disadvantage which Baltimore labored under in comparison with any of the Eastern cities, on the contrary, my impression is that we have an advantage with the present administration of the Road—not only my opinion, but the opinion of the most intelligent men in Baltimore, that our business transactions with the Road have been managed in a manner that has given us greater advantages than other cities have.

Mr. Vickers—Do you speak from your own knowledge?

Witness—Of my own knowledge, sir.

Mr. Garrett—You have found that the rates of freight maintained by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, under the rates charged from New York, have benefitted your business?