

Mr. Vickers—Did the depression of the year affect the business in which you were in?

Witness—Yes, sir.

Mr. Vickers—How long did you feel it in 1858?

Witness—My impression is, that the trade of the country, as well as Baltimore, is just now emerging from the injury which 1859 produced. 1858 was a season of people adjusting their business matters very generally.

Mr. Vickers—Were not the sales very much reduced in 1858?

Witness—As a general matter, some individuals would sell as many goods in 1858 as they would do in 1859; but I think I have answered that the importations were far less in 1858 than in 1859.

Mr. Vickers—And sales consequently less?

Witness—Of course.

*F. W. Elder* called and sworn.

Mr. Garrett—Will you please state the business in which you are engaged?

Witness—I am engaged in the coffee brokerage business and commission business.

Mr. Garrett—Do you know the extent of your operations for the past twelve months?

Witness—No, I really do not. I did not fortify myself with memoranda, but our shipments of coffee would average something like 5,000 bags a month, at a value probably of one hundred thousand dollars a month. For the last few months our shipments have not been less than 8,000 bags—Brazil coffee—monthly.

Mr. Garrett—Will you state what has been the policy of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and its effects, during the past year, in regard to discrimination in rates on freight from Baltimore, compared with rates from New York and other eastern cities on that article?

Witness—From experience, I know that coffee purchases have been made of us by western houses on the specific ground of getting the coffee at a less rate of freight here than in New York.

Mr. Garrett—What are the present differences of freight between Baltimore and New York on coffee?

Witness—I have got a memorandum here which I append to our circular. I think the average difference is 16 cents per 100 lbs. The freight by this list, which I preserve for my guidance in quoting freights to our western correspondents, is, from Baltimore to, 68 cents, and from New York to, 84 cents, making about 16 cents difference, and that is about the variation between the leading points in the west. From Evansville and Cincinnati the difference is the same—the one being 44 and the other 60 cents.