

Mr. Vickers—Baltimore fairly stood a few years ago as the first coffee market in the United States, but has now become the third?

Witness—I suppose you are aware that the consumption of Brazil coffee has increased very materially. It is natural to presume that the consumption will increase faster where the most people are. I say our trade has increased, but the trade of New York and New Orleans has increased more.

Mr. Vickers—You are aware that New York and New Orleans have increased much more. Has that maintained our geographical position?

Witness—It is according to our capital and means. If the trade had left us and gone to New York, I would then have said we were decreasing.

Mr. Vickers—Points as far as New York and New Orleans are increasing over and above you, and yet you claim that you receive advantages?

Witness—You must bear in mind, sir, that New York is five times larger than Baltimore; at the time previously alluded to, the importation of coffee from Brazil was comparatively a new thing—that is, if you go back before the year 1853.

Mr. Vickers—The point I want to arrive at is, if the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has afforded these advantages and facilities claimed, why is it that the coffee market has failed to maintain its relative strength? It assuredly has not done so?

Witness—To be sure we have had an increase of our population, but other cities have increased much more rapidly.

Mr. Vickers—I want to ask one question, which I think is pertinent to the case. Have you any understanding among the Directors that you all vote one way?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Vickers—Never had any since you have been at the Board?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Vickers—My reason for asking that question is, that Mr. Tyson felt he was under some obligations to vote according to the caucus.

Mr. Garrett—(jocularly)—Mr. Chairman, this is surely an extremely irrelevant matter.

Mr. Garrett—(to witness)—Has there been any caucus meeting of the stockholder Directors for the last two years upon any subject whatever?

Witness—I am not aware of any caucus or meeting.

Witness—I would like to make one statement. The day before yesterday I sold 500 bags of coffee to a gentleman in Cincinnati, and when I sold him the coffee, he made the remark “that he came here to buy his coffee because he could get it for less freight.”