

of freight existed, buyers took the advantage of it. The state of things existing then was very unusual.

Mr. Vickers—The whole business was increased because the railroads were taking freight at low rates?

Witness—I think the business of Baltimore was increased.

Mr. Vickers—When freights were irregular and low, how do you determine the fact that your business was benefitted?

Witness—By the statements of buyers themselves, who gave as a reason of their buying in Baltimore that the rates were low.

Mr. Vickers—What reason did they give?

Witness—That the freights were exceedingly low, and probably would not continue low long, and they took advantage of the state of the market at the time.

Mr. Vickers—Do you know whether the year 1858 was a year of depression in your business?

Witness—No, sir, it was not.

Mr. Vickers—As compared with 1859?

Witness—Our business was not quite so large, but quite as prosperous. I think we sold as many goods to the West as in 1859. It did not suffer in 1858 as compared with 1859.

Mr. Garrett—Do you understand the origin of the conflict which produced these irregularities in the rates?

Witness—I understand that it arose from a violation of the compact by the Northern Roads. I don't know anything but merely from memory.

Mr. Garrett—Are you aware of the difficulty which occurred with the New York Central Road in reference to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company determining to maintain its discriminating policy in favor of Baltimore.

Witness—I don't know that I exactly understand the question.

Mr. Garrett—My object is to present the fact that our policy of discrimination was the cause of the conflict. Were you aware that the freights on the Baltimore and Ohio Road were adjusted so that Baltimore might not suffer in the competition, and that every effort was made that Baltimore shippers should be placed upon a proper footing?

Witness—So far as our business was concerned, we were perfectly satisfied.

Mr. Garrett—Are you aware of the difference maintained prior to the rescinding of the St. Nicholas contract?

Witness—I do not recollect.

Mr. Garrett—Are you aware there was a material discrimination in favor of Baltimore?

Witness—That's my impression.

Mr. Vickers—I think you said that the irregularities in the rate of freight were satisfactory?