

of the case from the parties implicated. But that committee was without power to administer oaths, and send for persons and papers, and, therefore, as a matter of course, they failed to obtain much of the testimony expected. They hardly expected the parties, whose names were connected with the matter in a fraudulent sense, to come in and convict themselves, if we could not compel them to come and force the knowledge from them.

*By Mr. Gordon.*—Q.—Who were the parties who obtained that grant from the City Council?

Answer. Some of the grantees themselves have told me who the parties were.

Question. Who were the grantees?

Answer. Do you mean those named in the bill?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Answer. Wm. H. Travers, Wm. S. Browning, Rob't Cathcart, Jesse Sumwalt and Wm. De Goey.

Question. You spoke of parties who were urging that grant before the City Council: who were they?

Answer. I mean the partisans of the particular bill itself, members of the Council, together with those who were there in behalf of it in the lobby.

Question. Do you speak of parties who were pressing the bill independent of those to whom the grant was made?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Who were they?

Answer. There were John Hinsley, Alfred D. Evans, Warden of the Penitentiary, Thomas H. Gardiner, Clerk of the Criminal Court, together with others whose names I do not recollect. They were the most prominent.

Question. Did you know any thing of Mr. Brock at that time?

Answer. I did not myself.

Question. Did you know anything of those who are associated with them now in asking for the grant?

Answer. I never seen any of them at all at that time.

*By the Chairman.*—Q.—Have you any knowledge of any improper influences used with the City Council on behalf of any of the parties endeavoring to obtain this grant.

Answer. As I said in answer to your first inquiry, as a matter of course, I was not in the confidence of parties in favor of this bill, and had no direct knowledge myself, except what I derived from the parties themselves.

*By Mr. Gordon.*—Q.—What parties?

Answer. The advocates of the bill.

*By the Chairman.*—Q.—State to the Committee what influences the advocates of the bill said they used, and who were the advocates who said it. Were the advocates the gentlemen named in the grant or assignment?

Answer. No, sir. I did not see any of these gentlemen there; I knew but two of them, Mr. Travers and Mr. Browning. On one occasion Mr. Browning was there, but I did not observe that he took any active part in the matter; he was there during the discussion.

Question. Are you cognizant of the fact that anything like a bribe was tendered to any member of that City Council to get his influence to pass this ordinance?

Answer. It was told me so by one.

*By the Chairman.*—Q.—State what you know of facts that took place.

Answer. It was not told me by any member of the Council as of his own knowledge, but by one of the parties whom I have named as being one of the friends of the bill in the lobby.

*By Mr. Gordon.*—Q.—That is not evidence, for the parties can themselves be brought here as witnesses.

*Mr. Blakistone.*—Q.—Do I understand the Committee to refuse to question the witness about what was told him by the agent of the parties?