

Answer. Yes, sir, and in case of a failure to vote them down, then to call another meeting after the other had adjourned.

By Mr. *Bakistone*. Question. Was not this call for the three cent bill?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Is it the custom in the city of Baltimore to call two meetings holding opposite views at the same time and place?

Answer. It has been frequently done. My object in doing it was because I thought the purpose of that meeting was to operate upon the Second Branch of the City Council, having this matter in consideration, and if the purpose was defeated that night it would be defeated altogether. And I was satisfied the people of Baltimore were not in favor of the three cent bill.

Question. Was there no other place but Monument Square large enough to hold your meeting?

Answer. I wanted to influence all my friends, even those who favored the three cent bill, to go there, and when they understood it to vote it down.

Question. Did you or not offer a gentleman a considerable fee if he would go there that night and make a speech?

Answer. I did. The person is John Wilmot, the Crier of the Superior Court of Baltimore. He had become notorious in presiding at meetings, had presided at the Blind Johnny meeting.

Question. Do you mean a subscription meeting?

Answer. No, sir, at the Blind Johnny meeting, which was the origin of the American party. I thought that by getting him to preside there it would be certain to throw ridicule upon it and defeat it.

Question. And you offered him \$100 to make himself ridiculous.

Answer. I did in that way.

The *Chairman*. And to make honest people ridiculous.

Mr. *Gordon*. You admit a difference of opinion in regard to honesty and dishonesty in these matters?

The *Witness*. Yes, sir.

Mr. *Maxwell*. The presiding officer of a meeting holds a very respectable position, does he not?

The *Witness*. Yes, sir.

By the *Chairman*. Question. You say the attempt to break up this meeting was first created on the part of those who met to sympathise with the three cent bill?

Answer. I was not present at the meeting, but I was informed so.

Question. Who informed you, and who was you told was the party?

Answer. I do not remember who told me; the matter has slipped my memory. I think I was told by a number of gentlemen who were present at the meeting, that the first attempt to disturb the meeting was by a person who favored the three cent project.

Question. Who informed you of that fact?

Answer. I think one of them was Wm. H. Roberts, a clerk in my office, who was present at the meeting.

Question. Did he state to you who that person was?

Answer. I do not know as he knew who he was; but that he supposed he was in favor of the three cent bill.