

Gardiner to say that he had made the list himself, or that he had any hand in it, but he spoke of it as a fact.

Thomas H. Gardiner—[who was standing by] said: I call the gentleman to order; I denounce that statement as untrue; it is untrue that I ever made any such statement.

The Chairman. The gentleman must not use such language here to a witness on the stand. He can have an opportunity to explain himself.

Mr. Montague. I am accustomed to such language.

Mr. Gardiner. I beg the pardon of the Committee, and withdraw that statement, or expression.

William L. Montague resumed:

Mr. Wood said he opposed the three cent bill, or did not vote for it, because he did not think it would pay. Now, I want to state my reasons for believing it would pay. I had received from New York the returns of passenger travel on the various avenue lines constructed in New York, for the previous year, I had ascertained that they were constructed under a covenant with the Council who gave the charters that the city of New York should take those roads at any time at the prime cost, with 10 per cent. added thereto, making no allowance for wear, tear, age, or any thing else. During that year there had been 27 million and some hundred thousand passengers transported over those five lines, and the revenue derived from these lines was some \$1,480,000. That exhibit had drawn from the press of New York a clamor against the longer continuance of 5 cents when it was demonstrated that a cheaper fare would pay, and, in addition to that, it was a very strong argument with me that, looking at the covenant incorporated with this agreement between the Council and these roads, the temptation was a very strong one to put in fictitious costs.

Mr. Alexander. I would suggest to the Committee, merely to save time, if this is important.

Mr. Gordon. I think not.

The Chairman. The counsel upon the other side did not object to the reasons offered by Mr. Wood when he supported the 5 cent bill.

Mr. Alexander. This is only a long detail, not that he had considered the three cent bill before he voted for it, but merely that he thought three cents would pay.

The Witness. I can produce the paper here.

Mr. Gordon. That would be best.

By *Mr. Blakistone.* Question. As a member of the City Council, and as a resident of Baltimore, familiar with the public opinion there, do you believe that the passage of that bill could have been secured under any circumstances, if it had been known at the time that it was to be transferred to other than citizens of Baltimore?

Answer. I believe if the Angel Gabriel had come there with the best charter ever heard of, the bill would have passed over every thing.

Mr. Gordon. The facts have been given, and we can draw our conclusions as well as the witness.

Mr. Maxwell. I do not believe the angel Gabriel would go to Baltimore under the circumstances.

The Witness. I meant by that remark merely to indicate that no other bill would have succeeded.

By *Mr. Whyte.* Question. Did I understand you to say that neither you nor any of your acquaintances, were interested in any of the bills for a city passenger railway?

Answer. No, sir, not any of them.

Question. You said none of your acquaintances or friends?