

Mr. *Alexander*. That is not evidence.

*The Witness*. I am stating the conversation. Mr. Gardiner denied the facts, and said that Brock & Co. were good Americans, and in the course of the conversation said: "It is important for us, because Brock & Co. will control a large influence with the Republican members of Pennsylvania, and thereby aid in the election of Henry Winter Davis for Speaker."

Mr. *Gordon*. We think it well and proper to examine into whether this matter is to be used for political purposes.

Mr. *Whyte*. I will say that if the counsel here thought that was the case they would leave this matter at once.

By *Gov. Pratt*. Question. You say this conversation was in October?

Answer. Yes, sir, between the City Council election and State election.

Question. Before or after the nomination of Mr. Davis?

Answer. After the nomination.

By Mr. *Alexander*. Question. Were you not an applicant to the City Council for a grant?

Answer. I was.

Question. Were you in one of these bills?

Answer. I was not in any bill that came before the City Council on its passage. I was on a bill that was withdrawn before any action was taken upon it, except by the Committee, after the Travers bill was reported by the Committee. At the request of Mr. Gardiner, I will state to the Committee that it was after the nomination of Mr. Davis as a candidate for Congress that this conversation took place.

*James Wardell*, called and sworn.

By Mr. *Blackstone*. Question. Were you or not engaged by Mr. Gardiner to go round and induce persons to go to the meeting in Monument Square that was broken up.

Answer. That was broken up.

Question. It was broken up, was it not?

Answer. Allow me to state the whole of the circumstances. I saw Mr. Gardiner flying around through the court house, as though something was going on, and I asked him what was the matter. There had been something between us. He said—"Jimmy, let us bury the hatchet: there is going to be a meeting here to-night, and we have got to make Wilmot president." I asked him what for. Says he—"We want to have a burlesque, and I want to get the most unpopular man we can to be president." Mr. Travers was a friend of mine, and I was, if anything, in favor of the Travers bill, because I knew the parties. Says he—"I wish you would get as many of our friends there as you possibly can in favor of the Travers bill." I suppose I spoke to some half dozen men, not more, and I went down there that night, whether by myself or with the other gentlemen, I do not recollect. I do not suppose there were 125 people there altogether. There was a parcel of these flambeaus burning—a perfect nuisance, for they made a smoke all around the whole place, and a man could hardly speak there. Nobody called the meeting to order. I hollowed myself to a man up on the railing that he had better come down from there. Some one threw a flambeau down in the street, and I went around then to Gilmor House. There was a proposition made to get a band of music; whether it was made before or after the meeting I cannot recollect. But at any rate I got a band of music. For my part it was a willing movement, to come out honestly about it. It was about the time of the nominations, and