

Question. At the time you came to that determination, was there any one named as assignee, or any amount named as consideration for the assignment?

Answer. No sir.—I did not know any party.

Question. How long after the passage of that ordinance was it before it was assigned?

Answer. I think some three or four days.

Question. Where was it first contemplated to assign it?

Answer. I cannot recollect precisely.

Question. Who conducted the assignment?

Answer. Mr. Travers.

Question. Did you know before the assignment was actually made, that Brock & Co. were to get it?

Answer. I did not; never heard his name mentioned, and never saw him until we met together to make the final arrangement.

Question. Did Mr. Travers then conduct the negotiation for the five grantees, without consulting any of them?

Answer. No, sir; when we met together, a difficulty arose as to the assignment. I objected to making it at once, and a difficulty arose between me and those to whom we were introduced as capitalists.

Question. State what that difficulty was.

Answer. It was, that in the ordinance there were grave obligations imposed—opening the books, building the road by Baltimore mechanics, and of Baltimore material. I told them that no consideration would induce me to make the assignment till I had a guaranty that this provision should be carried out. Mr. Travers negotiated that, the grantees having satisfied me.

Question. I understand you to say, when you met the parties, that you told them you would not agree to the assignment unless a guaranty was given that these things would be faithfully executed?

Answer. Most emphatically.

Question. Please state whether or not it was contemplated by Travers and others to assign it without a guaranty.

Answer. I am speaking for myself. I do not believe it was.

Question. Then why did you protest against its being done?

Answer. Because we were required to transfer without any other consideration than furnishing the capital; but said I, there are other obligations, and I must have guaranties that they will carry out literally and faithfully this ordinance.

Question. If you had to insist upon it, suppose you state why it was so.

Answer. I spoke with reference to the assignees; there was no difficulty on the part of the grantees with my views.

Question. Who was it that opposed the grantees being given?

Answer. No one opposed it, exactly; the assignees insisted that the transfer should be made for the consideration of the capital. I said there were other considerations, and we must have guaranties that they also should be carried out. They said they had not the slightest objection—that they intended to carry out the ordinance faithfully and fairly; that is, the assignees said so. Then said I, "Gentlemen, prepare the document, and give us a sufficient bond, and we are ready and very happy to meet you upon the original proposition to receive your capital, and we will carry this thing out in good faith." They prepared the papers and submitted them, and they were approved. All our parties—the grantees—Mr. Travers in particular, on whom I relied—said they were amply sufficient, and accepted them, and the arrangement was made.

Question. How many were present at the time?

Answer. All five of the grantees.