

on the end of sticks to illuminate the square. As soon as it began to grow dark, there was a crowd that commenced throwing these things about, and there was no attempt to organize the meeting. I think it would have been ineffectual. There were present at the square two or three members of the City Council at least, and I was solicited to act as President of the meeting.

By Mr. *Blakistone*. Who were those members of the Council?

Answer. Augustus Talbot and James Wood; there were one or two others, I think.

By Mr. *Hambleton*. You have said you thought it would be impossible to carry out the three cent grant?

Answer. I said from information I had received it would be impossible. Frequent applications are made for grants, and when made, the parties often fail, and after failing, they go before the same body and ask for an increase of pay. That is one of the points I intended to make that evening.

Question. Gardiner, you say, offered you first \$50, and then \$100 to preside?

Answer. And I peremptorily refused it.

Question. Did he express any reason why he wanted you particularly to preside?

Answer. No, sir; he said they wanted to vote down every proposition of a three cent character that might be offered, and if they had their Chairman, it might easily be accomplished.

Question. The propositions were to be voted down by means of having an opposition Chairman to preside?

Answer. That was one of their ideas.

Question. Whose ideas?

Answer. The idea of Gardiner.

Question. And they mentioned it in presence of members of the City Council?

Answer. Yes, sir; I think both the members I mentioned spoke about it. (Talbot and Wood.)

Question. Did they acquiesce?

Answer. It seemed to have been the plan arranged between them.

Question. Can you give any reason why the meeting was not called to order?

Answer. Previous to the time of assembling torches were thrown out like sky rockets in the air, and it was utterly impossible to call the meeting to order. There was another proposition made subsequently by Gardiner. He agreed to give me \$100 if I would advocate this bill after it had passed, when a great deal of opposition had been got up in Baltimore, if I would talk in favor of Brock's railroad he would give me \$100.

By Mr. *Pratt*. You are a member of the bar?

Answer. I am.

By Mr. *Hambleton*. Can you state any other circumstances?

Answer. I was appealed to as a party man—as an American—that it would be policy for Brock to get this charter from the Legislature, and one of the reasons stated was, that a bond had been given by the parties in Philadelphia to either the directors or assignees of the grant, that they should have the entire control of the road—that all the appointees and contractors should be members of the American party.

Question. Kept under the control of the American party?

Answer. To be an American measure altogether as I understood it.

Question. Do you know of Brock's being in Baltimore during the pendency of that bill?

Answer. No, sir, I was never introduced to him till some three or four weeks after it was passed.

Question. You were not in the current?