

0554

BOX:

139

FOLDER:

1436

DESCRIPTION:

Nathan, Jacob L.

DATE:

05/07/84



1436

Witnesses:

Charles P. Chilton

Bail

William Bennett

533 Six St. Ave

Court of Oyer and Terminer.

Counsel, *Howe* 13/9

Filed 17 day of May 1884

Pleads *Not Guilty* Dec 17/84

Liberty to go to prison

35 9 THE PEOPLE

vs. B

Jacob L.

Nathan

arrived & arrived
May 8/84

[Sections]

Modern & see by Penal Code

Dec 16, 1884 PETER B. OLNEY,

Tried and convicted District Attorney.

City Prison 30 days and fined \$500

(Appeal stay & bail)

A TRUE BILL.

Minette H. Wright

Foreman.

May 7/84

Recd 1000

POOR QUALITY
ORIGINAL

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C O U R T O F O V E R A N D T E R M I N E R

In and for the City and County of New-York.

-----X
The People of the State of New-York :

- against -

Jacob L. Nathan.
-----X

The Grand Jury of the City and County of New-York, by this indictment, accuse Jacob L. Nathan of the Crime of WILFULLY REFUSING TO ANSWER A PROPER QUESTION, being present as a witness before a Committee of the Assembly of the State of New-York authorized to summon witnesses, committed as follows:

On the *Fifteenth* day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, the Assembly of the State of New-York, being one of the branches of the Legislature of the State of New-York, and one of the houses thereof, duly adopted certain preambles and a certain resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the official reports of the transactions of the Department of Public Works of the City of New-York, under the management of Commissioner Hubert O. Thompson, show an increase of sixty-five per cent. in its annual expenditures, which amounted to \$4,982,370.77 for the second year of his administration; and,

WHEREAS, it has been charged by the Union League Club, and by the public press of New-York that there has been gross neglect of duty and apparent violations of law on the part of the said Commissioner in awarding contracts on misleading estimates, and unbalanced bids, and in giving out work and purchasing sup-

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plies under a system of orders for \$999, and less, and that excessive payments for professional services have been made for the Croton Water Fund, and that there has been unnecessary increase of cost and delay in furnishing an additional supply of water to said City through the Bronx river conduit, and that said Commissioner in other ways has been neglectful of the public interests; and,

WHEREAS, the tax levy of the City and County of New-York for the year 1884 has been increased \$3,360,380.00 over that for the year 1883, and that this increase has followed the exposures of fraud and defalcations in the Public Works, Finance, Law and Dock Departments, and in the office of the Commissioner of Jurors; and serious charges have been made affecting the administration of the Tax and other Departments; and,

WHEREAS, Public sentiment demands a thorough investigation of the local government of that City and County to the end, not only that any and all abuses that are found to exist may be speedily corrected, but that their repetition may be prevented; therefore,

RESOLVED, That a select committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Roosevelt of New-York, O'Neil of Franklin, Erwin, of St. Lawrence, Welch, of Niagara, Nelson, of Otsego, be directed to make such investigation, and that said committee be empowered to send for books, papers and persons, and incur such other expense as it may deem necessary, and that for the further purpose of facilitating such investigation, the speaker be authorized to employ counsel and to appoint a stenographer and expert accountant for the use of that committee during this investigation, such committee to report the result of such investigation and its

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recommendations concerning the same to the House on or before

March 15', 1884. *And afterwards the said Assembly from time to time by resolutions duly authorized the Committee created by the resolution aforesaid to include in the day book the names of witnesses.*

And thereupon upon the passage of the said resolution,

and by virtue thereof, Theodore Roosevelt, William T. O'Neil, George Z. Erwin, Thomas V. Welch and Hatfield D. Nelson, being members of the said house of Assembly and of the Legislature of the State of New-York, became and were duly constituted members of the committee created by the said resolution, and then and there and at the times hereinafter mentioned constituted and were such committee so created and appointed by the said resolution, and at the time hereinafter mentioned the said committee was one of the committees of the said Assembly of the State of New-York, being one of the houses of the Legislature of the State of New-York, and a committee thereof duly authorized to summon witnesses.

And on the second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, the said Jacob L. Nathan, late of the Fourteenth Ward of the City of New-York, in the County of New-York aforesaid, was present as a witness before the said committee at a session thereof then and there duly held under and by virtue of the resolution aforesaid; and a certain material and proper question was then and there duly propounded by the said committee to the said Jacob L. Nathan as follows:

"Q. I now read from another page, which I have marked Ex. 3, and I ask you to explain this writing, "Captain Killilea any time "I can see you and you want to see me I would like to fix "things with you, for you are the only one that does not want "to take any chances, yet all the rest of the captains take "the sugar and why don't you take it. Please let me know." What is the meaning of that?"

And the said Jacob L. Nathan being present before the

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and proper question having been then and there duly propounded to him by the said committee as aforesaid, unlawfully, at the Ward, City and County aforesaid, did then and there wilfully refuse to answer the same; against the form of the statute in such case made and provided, and against the peace of the People of the State of New-York and their dignity.

PETER B. OLNEY,

District Attorney.