GRANT CONTRADICTS M'CANN,

AND THAT PERTILE WITNESS TELLS MORE AND NEW TALES.

One About a Prospective Ten Cents a Barrel for Croker on Aqueduct Cement—Another that Mrs. Croker Sat Up at Night with the Boodle—McCann Also Says Grant Told Him that He Himself Would Have Been Mixed Up in the Broadway Boodling but for Croker—The Mayor Says That's a Lie—Mr. Grant Admits that he Gave Flossie Croker $10,000 as a Provision for his Godchild—Never Wanted to be Commissioner of Public Works or Raised Any Money for the Purpose—The Complaints to the Senate Withdrawn Except as to Ivins—Edson Corroborates the Mayor—Joseph H. Choate Joins Bourke Cockran as Counsel—Adjourned to May 15.

Mayor Grant and Brother-in-law McCann met face to face yesterday before the Fassett investigating committee. The sessions took all day, and at the end both of the combatants were still in the field and apparently as full of fight as ever. Brother-in-law McCann not only stuck to all he had said before, but added a lot of new charges, and, furthermore, declared that if he were persecuted enough he would tell, either in this or some other court, a heap of other things that Mayor Grant and Tammany would not like to have known.

Mayor Grant, for his part, made a general denial of all that McCann had said so far as it involved any official or personal misconduct on his part. He professed absolute ignorance of the $180,000 episode, and denied that he had sent his private secretary to Mrs. Croker or any one else to offer them inducements to leave the country. He admitted that he had given envelopes containing $5,000 to Mr. Croker's little child, Flossie, but said that the number of these envelopes had been two instead of five, and that they were purely and simply gifts from Godfather Grant to godchild Flossie, and had had nothing whatever to do with either Sheriff Grant or Tammany leader Croker.

It was the star performance of the committee, so far as public interest is concerned. At 3¼ o'clock the police barred the doors and announced that no more spectators would be admitted. It took a full platoon of police after that to keep the halls and corridors clear so that the members of the committee and others having business before it could get into the room. When Chairman Fassett at last rapped upon the desk there was not an inch of room left, and lawyers and others having to move about from one part of the room to another were compelled to use chairs for stepping stones and turn the tables into streets.

MR. COCKRAN MAKES THINGS PLEASANT.

Mayor Grant and Bourke Cockran came in through a side door with Chairman Fassett and the other members of the committee. The whole party was smiling, and it was whispered around that mutual understandings had been arrived at whereby Mr. Cockran would make apologies for having expressed his contempt for the committee at various times and places during the past week, and would be recognized once more in his old rôle as friend of the committee and protector and defender of Tammany.

Ex-Congressman John J. Adams was up when Mr. Fassett called the committee to order, but while the audience was quieting down Mr. Cockran rose, bowed, and said:

"I recognize you first," said Chairman Fassett, with a bow as amicable and ostentatious as that of Mr. Cockran himself.

Mr. Cockran sat down, and when the hubbub had at last subsided and the police had put out everybody who was not in anybody else's way, he rose again and said:

I desire to say in reference to certain reports which have appeared in the papers during the past week representing me as having given certain statements to the effect that the committee had been a party to a conspiracy against Mayor Grant, and had been guilty of subornation of perjury, that I said nothing of the kind. I admit that I said that if Mr. McCann's testimony was false it must have been obtained by subornation of perjury, but in so far as those statements could be construed to convey the impression that the committee had anything to do with any such manufacturing of evidence, I beg to withdraw them and to profess that no such thought entered my mind.

Chairman Fassett—The committee has never presumed to pass judgment as yet upon any testimony given before it. I reserve my opinion as to the testimony referred to and all other testimony.

Mr. Adams now got a chance, and moved to expunge from the testimony given last week by Mr. McCann certain sentences which contained the statement that Tom Adams had been discharged by H. B. Claflin & Co. for embezzlement. No motion was made, and the sentences were expunged.

COCKRAN TACKLES M'CANN.

Brother-in-law McCann came in while Mr. Adams was talking. He looked vigorous and belligerent. There was some delay while the lawyers conferred, and the Mr. Cockran called McCann to the chair. He was about to ask him a question, when Chairman Fassett interpolated with feigned anxiety:

"Is Mr. Grant here this time?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Cockran.

"Then let the examination go on," said Mr. Fassett.

Mr. Cockran began:

Q—Did your testimony you stated that when you bought the Mount St. Vincent restaurant you paid $10,000 for it? A.—Yes.

Q—And that you paid it by crediting $3,000 to Mr. Croker upon his account, and giving a check to Mr. Conkin, and assuming a mortgage of $4,000; was that debt of Mr. Croker's of long standing? A.—It had stood for seven or eight years, or longer.

Q—You had not loaned him money, but it was merchandise that you had furnished? A.—Yes. It ran from 1875.

Q—And $4,000 are still due? A.—Yes.

Q—Is this $4,000 of long standing also? A.—No, it is an account that is going on from day to day.

Q—Where were you when that debt was contracted? A.—On Third and Eighth avenues.

Q—You sold mourning goods? A.—Yes.

Q—Well, but Mr. Croker didn't have deaths enough in his family to run up an account like that, did he? A.—he, but I kept other goods.

Q—You failed on Eighth avenue? A.—Yes.

Q—You made an assignment? A.—Yes.

Q—You made a statement of your debts and assets? A.—I gave the assignee my books and he made out the statements.

Q—Did you not help? A.—No.

Q—Were those accounts of Mr. Croker in your books? A.—Yes, I guess so.

Q—Did they show $4,000 of an open account? A.—No.

Q—Didn't you say they did? A.—No; that account was running all along in Third, Eighth, and Sixth avenue.

Q—Will your books show? A.—I don't know. They have been shipped out of the state, I understand.

Q—But you kept that account was to them? A.—Well they've been out of my hands, and I want to see them first before I say what was in them now.

Q—Here is a copy of your schedule of your assignment, and I find it is the item, "Richard Croker, $4,000," is that a correct statement of Mr. Croker's liability to you at that time? A.—I couldn't say without seeing the books. I want to say right here that I didn't put all that account in the books.

Q—How did you keep it then? A.—In my head and through conversations with his family.

Q—Then you carried this long running account, then, and you have been carrying it in your head ever since and down to the fall? A.—Yes.

Q—Have you any record anywhere of any interest note of Mr. Croker to pay toward what is shown in this schedule? A.—I couldn't say.

Mr. Cockran put the schedule in evidence, and said that the books to which he referred would be produced.

Q—Did that $4,000 clear up the indebtedness of Mr. Croker to you at that time? A.—I don't know positively.

Q—Well, when did this account cease to be? A.—When the running of it did stop. I was getting things from the establishment by Mr. Croker's family and the marking up of the goods ceased. Mr. Croker went abroad he left his family in straitened circumstances. I have reason for this to make allowance of a running account so that she could take money and buy what she had for use in lieu of an allowance.

M'CANN TACKLES COCKRAN.

Q—Is this account all made up of such allowances? A.—No, it was made up of dispatch to pass to you and other friends at Mr. Croker's.

The audience laughed, and Mr. Cockran asked up to what time there had been dispatch.

Brother-in-law McCann thought awhile, and then said: "Three times."

Q—Have I dined there more than once? A.—Yes, other times.

Q—Did I dine at Croker's with him? A.—Yes.

Q—Did you make a dinner for me? A.—No, I don't think I did.

Q—Did I dine there three times? A.—Yes, more than that, I think.

Q—Did I dine at Croker's with you? A.—Yes, I think I did.

Q—Do you know that I have never been there since the fall of 1888? A.—No, I don't know that.

Q—Did you ever propose to the assignee to hide your books? A.—No, sir (emphatically).

Mr. Cockran looked thoughtful for a moment, and then, saying "That is all," sat down. A buzz went around, and exclamations of surprise were heard on every side. Chairman Fassett leaned over the desk, and said:

"Are you done, Mr. Cockran?"

"I am," said Mr. Cockran.

NOW HE ACCUSES CROKER OF TWEEDISM.

Mr. Ivins arose, touched the tuberose in his buttonhole gently, stroked his beard, gloated for a moment over Mr. Cockran, and then turned tenderly toward the witness, who was, by all odds, the freshest man in appearance in the whole party.

"Did Mr. Croker say anything to you," he asked, "as to why he wanted Grant confirmed?"

The witness shared in Lawyer Ivins's gloat as he turned to face Mr. Cockran, and replied:

"Yes."

Q—When? A.—During that campaign.

Q—The campaign for Commissioner of Public Works? A.—Yes.

Q—What reason did Mr. Croker give?

The witness affected to hesitate again, squirmed around in his chair, and finally said:

"Well, he said it would be a benefit to him and to every one in the organization."

"Now, you might as well answer right out," said Mr. Ivins; "there's no use beating around the bush. How did Mr. Croker tell you that the appointment of Mr. Grant as Commissioner of Public Works would be of benefit to him personally?"

"Well, in one matter."

"What was it?"

"In the matter of the cement to be used in the department and in the building of the new aqueduct."

"How?"

The witness settled himself in his chair, looked around contemptuously, and said:

"There was a manufacturer of cement on the Hudson somewhere he told me, somewhere near Newburgh, I think, but I can't say just where, who was making cement as good as that which was being used by the city, and if Grant was made Commissioner that cement would be adopted, and Mr. Croker would get ten cents a barrel for every barrel that was used." Sensation in the court room.

Q—Did he say anything of the influence of the firm referred to in the Aqueduct Board? A.—He said that he would get the cement used in the new aqueduct, and that Croker would get that amount on each barrel.

Q—Did he mention any other advantage that Mr. Grant's appointment would be to him? A.—Nothing I can remember about.

Q—How long since you have spoken to him? A.—Since we met the other day.

MR. CROKER WANTS MORE CONVENIENCE.

Mr. Cockran took the witness here again and started in with renewed vigor.

Q—Do you not say that the name of this cement manufacturer? A.—No.

Q—Don't you not say that Croker told you that he wanted Grant appointed that he might have had an interview with him? A.—No.

Q—Did you not say that Croker said that he wanted Grant appointed that he might have a friend at the Aqueduct Board, so that he could get more convenient access to him? A.—No, sir