

When Gaffney led the opposition in the board of aldermen to the franchise, which was held up for many weeks in the face of the public demands for its speedy completion, his demands were strongly supported by Mayor Low.

In May, 1900, the New York Contracting Co., which was incorporated at Albany with a capital stock of \$10,000, James E. Gaffney was named as the president and John J. Murphy as treasurer at the time the company was organized. At that time the company was small then, and its offices, at No. 506 East 10th street, were in the same small single-story frame building which the company's headquarters are now in.

On account of Mr. Gaffney's official position as alderman it was necessary that he should not be connected with the company in making city contracts. Mr. Murphy then became president of the company and "E. Gaffney" treasurer.

John A. Be't, the oldest established merchant in Galtersburg, Md., voluntarily executed a deed of trust to Attorney William E. Tabbutt for the benefit of his creditors. The deed was dated the 10th of May, 1900, and the liabilities will reach only \$8,000.