

VANN REFUSES PAY FOR WORK IN SULZER DEFENSE

Judge Says His Salary as
Official Referee Was
Sufficient.

LETTER TO MR. CARMODY

"I Request That in Distributing the
Funds You Will Award Nothing
Whatever to Me," He Says, "for I
Can Accept Nothing if Awarded."

(By a Staff Correspondent.)

Albany, Feb. 7.—Former Court of Appeals Judge Vann of Syracuse, who draws a salary of \$6,000 as an official referee, has refused to share in the distribution of the funds that were appropriated by the Legislature for the counsel for the defendant in the Sulzer impeachment trial.

Judge Vann takes the position that the salary he draws as an official referee covers every service that he performs for the State. He included the services in the Sulzer case as services of that character. In his letter to Attorney General Carmody Judge Vann said:

I have just learned from Judge Herrick that you are to audit the claims of the counsel engaged in the recent impeachment and I write you, as I had previously written him, that I can accept no compensation for the little that I was able to do in defending Governor Sulzer.

We all regarded ourselves as engaged in State work, and while it is entirely right that the State should pay for such work, I am in a different situation from the other counsel engaged. At the time I was in receipt of a salary from the State as official referee and I regarded that salary as covering all State work of any kind done by me. This has been my position from the outset.

Owing to ill health, I was able to do very little, and the amount that I would be entitled to receive in any event would be of trifling importance, but the principle involved is important and I therefore request that in distributing the funds you will award nothing whatever to me, for I can accept nothing whatever even if an award should be made to me.

Before passing upon the claims Attorney General Carmody insisted that counsel interested should stipulate among themselves what each should receive for services performed.

76.7.1914

FORMER JUDGE IRVING G. VANN, WHO TO-DAY DECLINED to accept payment from the State for his services in the defense of former Governor Sulzer at the Impeachment trial.

