

Question. Did you ever have any conversation with Thomas H. Gardiner about the matter?

Answer. I never knew him till the bill was passed—would not have known him if I had met him in the street.

Question. Have you stated all you know material to the matter now before this Committee?

Answer. I think I have.

By Mr. *Blakistone*. Question. How many miles of railroad track has been laid down?

Answer. I think some sixteen miles of single track—perhaps it may be seventeen.

Question. Do you know of any other contracts which have been made for the laying down of any portion of the track, except those made with your brother and his partners?

Answer. Frederick C. Crowley built the Pennsylvania and Green street line, and Madison Avenue, and Eutaw street line.

Question. What did he get?

Answer. I think it was \$8,000 a mile. I never looked at the bill.

Question. Were there or not proposals advertised to lay down this track?

Answer. Certainly.

Question. Were there or not bids at a less sum than either Crowley or your brother and his partners contracted for?

Answer. There was one bid, I think, for a less sum, and several for a great deal more. The bid that was for a less sum we deemed not a proper bid. Some of us being practical men, we knew, or at least concluded, that the parties bidding did not know what they were doing, or that it would be unsafe to give them the contract.

Question. Who was the party?

Answer. I disremember.

Question. Did not you regard the bond of your contractors?

Answer. We did not. To have a man undertake to lay the road, and have it half done, will make it cost twice as much to build it.

Question. When a road is half made does it cost more to finish it than to build the whole road?

Answer. It might have cost us a great deal more if we had paid him for half of it.

Counsel. I don't understand that reasoning.

Witness. Why, he has to be paid for the road as it goes along.

By Mr. *Hambleton*. Are you a silent partner of your brother?

Answer. My brother and I are connected in the Block and Pump making business.

Question. Is he an expert in laying down tracks?

Answer. About as good as—

Question. Had he ever laid down any before?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Had the other parties, who made bids, laid down tracks before?

Answer. Certainly—experienced Railroad men.

Question. It was given to your brother. What was the name of the firm.