

*Question.* Were you here on Sundays, so as yourself to see the way in which the dormitories were cleaned by the negroes, as spoken of in your examination in chief?

*Answer.* I have been present on Sundays and witnessed the manner in which the negroes carried off the filth from the dormitories to the filth pens.

*Question.* Did you ever complain to the Warden or Directors, or any of them, and if so, when and how; that the negroes thus engaged were without the proper supervision of officers?

*Answer.* I have no recollection that I ever did.

*J. G. Roberts, recalled by Directors.*

*By Mr. Brune.—Question.* In your previous examination you stated, in answer to a question in regard to the present discipline of the Institution—"I think it might be more strict; my own orders are, to carry out the strictest discipline, and I have endeavored to do so." Will you explain the apparent discrepancy in portions of your said answer?

*Answer.* I meant to say that the discipline was as good as it could be under existing circumstances; by existing circumstances I mean the contract system as it now prevails; the contract system has prevailed for the last three years to my knowledge. I was assistant Warden nine years before the present term; when I was first here no contract system prevailed.

*Cross-examined by Mr. Gill.—Question.* You were not present when the fire took place?

*Answer.* No, sir.

*Question.* You were then Deputy Warden?

*Answer.* Yes, sir.

*Question.* How long had you been absent before the fire?

*Answer.* About two weeks.

*Question.* Why were you absent so long?

*Answer.* I had been confined for a long time and obtained leave of absence from the Board for two weeks.

*Question.* Who was appointed in your absence?

*Answer.* I believe Mr. Sparks discharged my duty.

*Question.* Do you know who filled your position on the day of the fire?

*Answer.* I do not know.

*Question.* Have you ever said to Mr. Charles Murdock, that if you had been present on the day of the fire, the same would not have occurred?

*Answer.* I might have said so, I do not recollect it; I have had frequent conversations with him on the subject of the fire.