

it; an extra officer placed in the wagon yard to facilitate the delivery of the barrels; and giving the convicts their breakfasts earlier, so that the time of labor was increased, for the space of three days, which was changed at Mr. Duvall's request.

*Question.* Did not Mr. Duvall keep his shop in an unsafe condition, and did you not notify him of the same?

*Answer.* The shop was in a very unsafe condition for a long period of time, so much so, that it was constantly complained of by the officer, Mr. Lefevre, that he could not perform his duties as he would like. I told Mr. Duvall the Directors thought his shop was in an unsafe condition, and I thought so too, and that the shop must be cleared; Mr. Duvall said he could not do it, because he had no other place for his stuff, and that the Directors had no authority or control over his shop, as the contract did not mention anything of that character.

*Question.* Was not the State deprived of the services of convicts from accidents occurring in Mr. Duvall's shop?

*Answer.* Yes, of a large number.

*Question.* Did you make it your duty or practice to go through Mr. Duvall's shop during the week and on Sundays more than through other shops?

*Answer.* Some six or eight weeks prior to the fire, I did visit his shop more than any other, because the shop was lumbered more than formerly, and in a dangerous condition, and I feared it might be fired either by accident or design.

*Question.* While Mr. Duvall's shop was in such a condition, was he not absent a great part of the time?

*Answer.* Yes, a week at a time.

*William A. Wisong, sworn.*

*Examined by Mr. Hurst—Question.* Have you not had frequent opportunities to witness the operation of the Institution, and what is your opinion of the general discipline of the same?

*Answer.* I have, and I believe the discipline to be as good as that of any other of the kind, and a good deal better than some. I have been connected with the Penitentiary, as agent of the Prison Association, for two years past, and believe that the rules are fully enforced.

*Cross-examined by Mr. Gill.—Question.* Did you ever go into the shops on Sunday?

*Answer.* I never did. I visited only the chapel and hospital on Sundays.

The Committee adjourned to meet on Friday morning, at 10 o'clock.

By order,

THOS. H. MOORE, Clerk.