

" That it was found impossible to ascertain whether this patient, at the time of such transfer, had her hands open or closed, and consequently whether it was possible for her to conceal matches in them during that period, a thing which would have been opposed to the rules established and enforced, and would have baffled the strict supervision proven to have existed by this inquest, but which would have accounted for this fire.

" Having exhausted all available proof and carefully weighed the testimony that it was necessary to hear, the jurors are of opinion that the fire broke out in the cell above mentioned after the introduction therein of the said Julie Elie *alias* Breton.

" That the fire in question originated in the mattress in the said cell, but how it did so it has been impossible to establish.

" That the fire communicated to the ceiling and thence spread throughout the entire part subsequently consumed.

" That at the time of the fire the institution was amply provided with every appliance to fight with fire.

" That the staff of the institution did the best they possibly could with the means at their disposal under the exceptional circumstances in which they were placed, having at one and the same time to combat the fire and effect the rescue of the patients, to the number of four hundred and twenty.

" That in the rescue of the patients the greatest heroism was displayed, and that no efforts that could reasonably be expected from the proprietors, their officers and employees were spared."