TAKES A JOB WITH BILLY ISCHERWOOD AND STAYS 7 YEARS

I, there was a merchant there named Ischerwood, Billy Ischerwood. He was from Washington, D. C. He had committed some crime and run off, come on and finally married into a Choctaw, married Edward Thompson's daughter. And he had a platform, railroad platform, you know, loading, lumber. There used to be a big lumber yard there, years ago, sawmill, everything down between the track and the river there at Tuskahoma. And Ischerwood, one day I was in rags almost, I didn't have nothin', and I was about 23 years old, maybe 24, no I was about 23. Anyway, Ischerwood say, "Pete can you dismantle that platform?" That platform was over a quarter of a mile long--wide and thick lumber, oh, six inches, some of 'em. "You can dismantle that and take the nails off and saw them out so that I can sell it for lumber?" And I said yes, I haven't much tools with me. He --it takes a crow bar and other stuff, heavier than just an ordinary hammer. Because you can't pull out those nails with just a hammer, long square nails, too. They were not round like today--old square... "Yes, yes I got something." "When can you get to work?" I said, anytime. I didn't say anything about the pay, nothin... I went to work, and I worked about a month, I guess. Had no gloves, no money to buy gloves, and rough lumber, got splinters. But I made it alright, and I had a pile of lumber there that looked like a sawmill, way up high. And I piled it regular, sizes, you know. Some of them twelve feet long, 2" wide and 12" inches wide, some of them that wide. I don't know how I handled it, but I handled it anyhow. Had it all, sawed it off... take of each kind, every kind, two by four, two by six, two by eight, and so forth, and I told Mr. Ischerwood, "Well, I believe I'm through." "Well, how much lumber you got?" I had a little book that I took...I told him how much it was, I should have remembered that, but there was a lot of it... So many of the two by fours, so many