## The Bloomfield Gimes.

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## NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENN'A.

Tuesday, August 22, 1871.

APPLICATION has been made to the Governor for the pardon of the Alleghany Co. Commissioners, convicted of bribery.

We wonder that any one would have the assurance to ask for the pardon of persons convicted of such a crime. Instead of shortening the sentence of the law, it is a great pity that the penalty had not been much greater. There is no crime committed, that is calculated to work so great injury to a community at large, as bribery of men in official positions.

## The Great Fraud on the State Treasury.

The daily papers, of all shades of politieal opinion, are filled with discussions of what appears to be a great fraud on the State treasury. The facts involved may be presented, in a condensed statement, as fol-

By a joint resolution of the Legislature, approved on the 22d March, 1867, and found on page 1343 of the pamphlet laws of that year, the Governor was authorized to appoint a special agent to collect claims of the State against the United States, whose compensation shall not exceed ten per cent. of the amounts thus collected, and shall be paid out of such collections. On the same day that the Governor approved the said resolution, he apointed one, Geo. O. Evans, of Philadelphia, such special agent, and issued his commission to him accordingly. On the 23d March, 1867, said Evans entered into an agreement, obligating himself to forthwith pay over to the State Treasurer all moneys so collected, less the compensation allowed, and to make semi annual reports to said State Treasurer, and also to make annual reports to said Governor under oath, and to give bond to the State in the sum of \$10,000, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties under said joint resolution, and this agreement: On the 2d April, 1867, special agent Evans filed his bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars, in accordance with the said agreement, and entered upon the discharge of his duties. Doubtless this ample, not to say oppressive, security demanded by the financial officers of the commonwealth, quickened Mr. Evans' zeal in his labor, and in thirty days after filing the bond he had in his possession \$78,516,89, belonging to the commonwealth. Other large amounts having been paid to Mr. Evans, which never found their way into the State treasury, Joseph M. McClure, Esq., who is a native of this county, and at present Deputy Attorney General of the Commonwealth, determined to institute an investigation, and in reply to a written request, Secretary Boutwell furnished him the following statementa:

Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., August 2, 1871.

August 2, 1871.

Joseph M. McClure. Esq., Sir.—In compliance with your request of the 25th ult., I enclose herewith a statement showing the amounts paid to the State of Pennsylvania, from January ist, 1867, to fully lst, 1871, for expenses, &c., during the rebellion, with the number of warrants, dates of payments, in whose favor drawn, amounts and to whom paid. I am very respectfully (Signed) GEO. 8. BOUTWELL, Secretary.

And then follows the statement showing the following warrants drawn in favor of John W. Geary, Governor, in care of Geo. O. Evans, and paid to said Evans either as special agent of Governor Geary, or as

attorney in fact : attorney in fact:
(1) 1 May, 1867. \$78,516 89
(2) 28 October, 1858, 105,651 45
(3) 27 August, 1670. 126,845 09
(4) 11 April, 1871. 127,822 59
(5) 15 May, 1871. 242,167 57
(6) 23 June, 1871. 242,167 57
(7) 2 May 1807. \$1,304,711 43
(8) 8 June 1868 2,752 5081,308,443.95

\$2,308,201 61

The money on the last two warrants nevhad he anything to do with the settlement between the State and the United States, to close up which, said warrants were drawn, as will appear on reference to the message of Gov. Curtin of 7th January, 1863, where he congratulates the citizens of the State on after which she sank down on the bed a having paid the direct tax levied by the general government, and names the amounts corresponding to said warrants; so that it appears, beyond all doubt, that Mr. Evans had nothing but a mere nominal connection with the warrants which closed up the settlement of Pennsylvania's direct tax.

But the first three above named warrants amounting in the aggregate to \$331,014, 44, and, including interest to 1st of July 1871 reaching a total of \$363,528,85, have never been paid into the state treasury, as appears from the following certificate:

Treasury Department of Penn's... Harrisburg, Aug. 9, 1871. I bereby certify that there has been paid into the Treasury of Pennsylvania. Six Hundred and

Seventy Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty-Three Dollars and Twenty-four Cents by the U. S. Government, on account of Military Expenses from January I, 1867 to July 1, 1871, Inclusive as follows:

Total..... \$678,743 24

I further certify that this is the whole amount of money received at the Treasury Office between the above mentioned dates, and that no Commissions have been paid at this office for collecting the same.

(d) Witness my hand, &c.,
(ed) THOS. NICHOLSON,
for R. W. MACKEY, State Treasurer. It thus appears, there came to the

hands of Mr. Evans, ..... 8909,757 6 He paid into the State Treasury..... 678,743 24

And is a defaulter to the amount of \$121,014 44 Or with interest added, to \$363,623 85. Mr. Evans attempts to explain away his embez-zlement by claiming to have collected 8',910,469-11

And crediting himself as follows: Pald quota of direct tax due from 

My Commissions of 10 per cent, retained : 291,016 91

It thus appears that special agent Evans, with an impudence which is simply as tounding, claims to retain as his commismissions ten per cent, on nearly two millions of dollars which Gov. Curtin congratulates the legislature in his annual message in 1863 as having been at that time fully adjusted and paid!! Besides Geary's Agent was not to have ten per cent, but his percentage was not to exceed that; he was to be paid it out of the collections made, not to retain it; his accounts, therefore, were to be audited by the financial officers of the state, and only a just and reasonable per centage allowed. The overwhelming proof of the corrupt embezzlement of special agent Evans, is furnished by the inadequacy of his attempted defense. That there was a deliberate and studied effort planned to rob the treasury by Evans and his confederates would seem to appear from this;

1st. No special state agent was needed for any houset purposes. A general agency having been established at Washington on account of the exigencies arising out of the rebellion, it was, by the 1st section of the Act of 1864 was, by the 1st section of the Act of 1994 (found on page 799 of the pamphlet laws) en-larged so as to include such other duties as the Governor may from time time direct; the second section of said Act authorized the apsecond section of said Act authorized the ap-pointments of tice clerks to assist the agency at Washington. And the Acts of 1867 Pamphlet laws pages 16 and 370, provide for the pay-ment of said state agents, and this after Evans was appointed. Was he appointed by reason of of special fitness for the purpose of corrupt confederates!

2d. On the same day that the joint resolution authorizing the appointment was approved by the Governor, he appointed and commissioned Geo. O. Evans as his special agent.

The inference is legitimate, that the parties who procured and approved the passage of the joint resolution, had conferred and agreed upon and produced at the appointed time, the in-dividual best sulting them to be appointed special agent

special agent.

3d. The bond securing the Commonwealth was taken and approved by the Governor in the paltry sum of ten thousand dollars either through innorance or design. If the former, sely approve the joint resolution if not more than \$5000 is supposed to be due by the United States to the state of Pennsylvania?—bonds are taken in double the amount they are intended to secure; if the latter, what other design could there be than to rob the treasury well impunity.

4th. Jos. M. McClure Esq. Deputy Attorney General, to whom alone is due the credit of instituting this investigation, has been urged by the Attorney General, at the instance of the Governor, to resign!! Is this the reward of honesty and competency in the discharge of his duties as a law officer of the common his duties as a law officer of the common of honesty and competency in the discharge of his duties as a law officer of the common wealth? or is it the revengeful act of guilty parties for bringing to light fraud embezzlement and corruption? We confess the whole ment and corruption, the manner of its affair, from its conception, the manner of its execution, the impotent defense, the apology the offender, and the attempted removal of the Deputy Attorney General, strongly savors of guilt and corruption. The cltizens of this commonwealth will not be satisfied with anything less than a most thorough investigation, and the full and fair acquittal of the accused parties, or their impeachment and punishment to the fullest extent of the law.

It is also asserted by the Germantown Chronicle that Evans made an agreement with a certain gentleman well-known in political circles, to pay him a specified sum out of his commissions in return for assistance rendered in the collection of the claims; that he failed to keep his engagement, and that the gentleman referred to went to Harrisburg and threatened to make trouble unless his claims were met; that he had a long interview with Governor Geary, and went away expressing himself satisfied, and that he received a check for \$5000, as the result of his visit.

A Mysterious Tragedy.

A mysterious affair occurred at the residence of of Joseph Davis, in Bullock county, Georgia. About 8 o'clock Wednesday morning of last week, the inmates of Mr. er came to hands of special agent Evans, nor Davis' house were alarmed by the loud screams of his wife. Her sister ran to the room and found Mrs. Davis sitting on the bed. As soon as she entered the room, Mrs. Davis said, "I am bleeding to death, run out and call some of the neighbors,' corpse. On examination, it was found that some one had cut her throat, and from the wound it is thought that it was inflicted with a knife, which was afterwards found in a tub of water in the yard. At the time the wound was inflicted, Mrs. Davis was sleeping in bed with her two little children. Her husband was off from home on a fishing frolic, and the sad news of the tragedy was as startling as it was unexpected. No one can account for the ontrage, nor can it be surmised who was the perpetrator of the crime. The excitement in the neighborhood is intense, and proper steps have been taken to ferret out the murderer.

Explosion in a Mine.

On the 14th inst., a fire damp explosion occurred in the Eagle Shaft, at Pittston.

There were twenty men at work in the mine at the time, sixteen or seventeen of whom were at work on a gangway where the explosion took place. The shock tore away brattice work and props, and caused the roof to fall, and the sixteen victims were imprisoned behind the mass of fallen rock, with no means of escape until the debris can be cleared away from the front. One man named Benjamin Davis, who was at work outside of the new gangway, was instantly killed by the explosion. The others working about the mine escaped uninjured. Attempts were at once made to rescue the men or recover their bodies and the work was continued up to midnight .-About this time the mine Inspector put a stop to all proceedings in order to ventilate the mine, so that those who went down could work without danger. A stream of water was turned in, and the passage ways were arranged by means of doors, so that a current of fresh air could be circulated throughout the mine. This soon removed the after-damp, or choke-damp as it is sometimes called, which always follows an explosion of gas or fire-damp, and which suffocated seventeen men, or those of that number who were not killed outright .-About half-past two, eight bodies were discovered and brought up. A fresh gang of workmen went down, and in a short time brought up another. After a diligent search they finally found and brought to the mouth of the shaft the remaining three.

It is not known, and most likely never will be known, how the men came to their death, whether all were instantly killed by the explosion, or whether they were stunned and afterward suffocated by the chokedamp. One or two bodies were badly burned and others considerably bruised.

A Singular Fire at Jersey City.

One morning last week, at about 1 clock a dull, heavy explosion, followed a moment later by a very slight one, occurred at the corner of Washington and Mongomery streets. The building in which it occurred is an old, dry frame structure, occupied as a liquor store, by Durancy and McGhee. The upper floor was occupied by two families. At the instant of the explosion a fire broke out in the lower floor, and within a minute had seized the whole house. The fire department were soon on hand, but before a single stream could be thrown on the fire, the whole building fell, with a loud crash. In the confusion which ensued it was impossible to ascertain how many of the inmates escaped, but it seems certain that one man and one boy were burned to death.

It is supposed the explosion came from a secret "Still" that was in operation in the cellar of the building.

It was subsequently learned that the essees of the premises were missing and were supposed to be in the ruins. Search was accordingly made, and they were found after a search of some hours in the cellar where the explosion occurred. Two other bodies were found making the number known to have been killed four grown persons and one child.

The "Westfield" Disaster.

The Coroner's jury in the "Westfield" case has returned the following verdict:-"That the deceased, Andrew Coyle and others, died through the rupture or explosion of the boiler of the ferry-boat "Westfield," July 30th; that said explosion or rupture was caused by a flaw in the iron. and by neglect of Engineer Robinson in carrying an over pressure of steam; that the company are responsible for the disaster, as the defect could have been detected if the Staten Island Ferry Company had had a competent superintendent, engineer and mechanic in their employ, and are therfore criminally negligent. We recommend the district attorney to take prompt action in the matter. We also think the government inspection very imperfect as now conducted. There was one dissentient, Mr. Kirtland, who believed the flaw could not have been discovered by the ordinary method of inspection."

Warrents were issued for the arrest of the president, directors and superintendent of the Staten Island Ferry Company; also for the arrest of Robinson, the engineer.

The number of deaths resulting from the explosion has now reached one hundred and three.

Almost Buried Alive.

The Annapolis, Md., Republican says: "Mrs. Henry A. Jones, of Friendship, was reported to have died suddenly on the 3d inst. The lady was on her way to camp meeting, but feeling unwell returned to her home, where she died, apparently, two or three hours afterwards.

Preparations were made for her funeral, and when the cortege was about starting for the burial place, the lady arose from her trance. Mrs. Jones is now doing quite well, considering the severe shock that must have been given to her nervous system on finding herself so near being buried

13 The Bangor Whig is informed that good cows can be bought in that vicinity for \$10, and the prospects are that the price may go even lower than this. Beef ought to be cheap this fall.

A Lucky Well Digger.

A Paducah (Ky) paper tells the following pleasant incident :

Some years ago a cashier of one of our banks was well acquainted with a gentleman who made a living by digging wells. About 15 years ago the well digger withdrew from society, moved to California, and was lost sight of by his friends. A few days ago he called at one of our banks, made himself known to the cashier who at once remembered him as the well digger. After some conversation on general subjects the well digger told the cashier he needed some exchange on New York, and asked the cashier if he could supply him with it, to which he replied : "Well, no, I don't think we can; we don't sell any small bills now-they are too much trouble." Well digger expressed his regret and disappointment adding that he would be compelled to go to Evansville or some other point to proprocure it-he thought he could get it here, and he didn't like to submit to the delay. "Well," said the cashier, "I may be able to let you have a small bill, how much do you want?" Forty-five thousand, gold," replied the well digger. The cashier's eyes expanded to their utmost, but are gradually contracting and will resume their usual dimensions in the course of a week. The well digger made good use of his time in California, and had returned among his old acquaintances, the possessor of almost fabulous wealth; \$45,000 in gold was considerable money for a well digger, but he had bought a farm for \$125,000 and had agreed to pay a portion of it in New York exchange. He quit well digging for the present.

An Unpleasant Passenger.

A few days since no little consternation was created in a South Baltimore city passenger car, caused by a dozen or more of hard-shell crabs. A gentleman in entering the car accidentally stumbled against the basket, and in a twinkling the crabs were crawling about in all directions. A lady in the car was first notified of the presence of the crabs by a sharp pain in one of her ankles, and when she discovered what caused the pain she uttered such a scream as almost threw another lady passenger into spasms. The crab maintained a stubborn hold upon the ankle, and at last a gentleman essayed to remove remove the monster, and in so doing he evidenced the fact that he was not posted in the art of pinning a crab, as the latter, quitting his hold upon the lady's ankle, caught the thumb of the gentleman; the sudden attack caused the man to utter a peculiar expletive, and in his agony he described a swift semi-circle with his left hand, and with such force as to detach the body of the crab from the claw which encircled the thumb of the gentleman, and the crab went full into the neck of the lady mentioned as as being afflicted with spasms. Her screams now made "confusion worse confounded," and in less than a minute after the basket had been overturned, the liveliest scene imaginable was going in the car, but the crabs were finally captured and returned to the basket, and quiet restored "along the

Singular Escape from Death.

The Harrisburg State Journal says: "A miner named Christian Shamper, employed at the Williamsport colliery, in the upper end of this county, made a narrow and singular escape frone death on Friday morning a week, while at work in one of the breasts at that colliery. It appears that he and his brother, working together, were cleaning away the coal after firing a shot, or blast in the coal, and while resting for a moment with his mining drill upright by his side, a large-mass of rock composing a portion of the roof, fell without giving a moment's warning and directly under which Shamper stood; but the drill being somewhat higher than the man, was struck by the rock and bending it almost double, the rock broke into two pieces, one of which crushed him underneath it and severely, though not fatally injuring him. Had it not been for the rock striking the drill, he would most undoubtedly have been killed as the roof is about twelve feet above the bottom slate.

Golden Bullets.

Not long ago some hunters and "prospectors" encountered in a ravine in the North of Tucson, Arizona, toward the Salinas, a party of hostile Apaches. After the fight the pouches of the slain Indians were found to contain several golden bullets, hammered out of nuggets picked by them in the course of their rambles. "These bullets," says a correspondent, "I saw and handled at the time, and am thus enabled to confirm the account of Aubrey, whose statement with regard to the use of gold bullets was received some years ago with ridicule and doubt."

A Volcanie Eruption.

A volcano in the Malay Archipelago recently burst out after a long interval of silence making a sad havoe. Be sides covering the whole surface of the island, the matters thrown out accumulated in some places, forming hills several hundred feet high. Amid the most terrific explosion an island suddenly rose up from the sea.

Four hundred and sixteen persons, all Malays, are stated to have perished by the eruption. Not a single being on the island could be saved.

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