

In 1851, Dr. Wozencraft and two others were sent out to this country as Commissioners to examine into Indian Affairs in this State. The act creating the board, appropriated thirty thousand dollars for expenses while performing their duty. Their instructions were to report the number, situation and location of the Indians in this State to the Department at Washington. Instead of doing so the board went on to make treaties with the Indians, laying off reservations and promising them provisions, clothing, &c. The commissioners drove off miners, traders and farmers from some of the finest mineral and agricultural lands in the State, allowing none to remain save a few who were interested in the speculation. The Indians prior to the treaty lived well and upon that food which they were accustomed to. The commissioners made contracts with parties to supply beef, flour, blankets, &c. to the Indians. The beef contract in the south was taken by Savage and Fremont, who ran up an account of upwards of two hundred thousand dollars against the U. States. Of the beef so charged, not a pound was ever delivered to the Indians, but was sold to the miners at from thirty-five to forty cents per pound. Undoubted and unquestionable evidence was obtained by Lieut. Beale to that effect and forwarded to Washington, but without avail. It was necessary to cast imputations upon the integrity of Mr. Beale and get him removed, so that the principal obstacle in the way of the payment of the fraudulent account would not be in the way. The tool Manypenny was on hand and subserved the purpose intended, and the account was allowed. President Pierce has only half performed his duty in appointing Mr. Beale Mail Agent—he should have discharged Manypenny from office as soon as the correspondence was laid before him.

