

# HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT GLOVERSVILLE

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Man is Brutally Beaten and  
Robbed.

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ASSAULTED BY TWO FRIENDS

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Crime Was Committed on Monday Night.  
Evan L. Evans Was Attacked by  
Frank Skiff and Charles Dieffen-  
baugh—Men are Now Loded in  
Johnstown Jail.

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One of the most brutal and unprovoked crimes that has been committed in Gloversville for a long time came to light last night, and by prompt action on the part of the police force, two men who are charged with murderously assaulting and robbing a friend were taken from their homes at an early hour this morning and placed in the station house.

The men who were arrested were both of Gloversville; Frank Skiff, who resides at No. 8 Mill street, and Chas. Dieffenbaugh, whose home is at 32 Forest street. Both of the men are under 30 years of age and married. The victim of the assault with which they are charged is Evan L. Evans, who has been an engineer at the plant of Filmer Bros., on Burr street, for the past twenty-four years, and is a man about fifty years old. The maximum penalty

for the crime charged against the young men is twenty years' imprisonment at hard labor, and if they are convicted the facts in the case will not entitle them to much consideration from the courts.

The robbery and assault was a despicable one and was carefully planned. On Monday Evans drew his pay at Filmers' mill and in the evening was visiting with friends at the café of Harlan Whittaker at the corner of South Main and Forest streets and at George Steinmitz's saloon on Cayadutta and South Main streets. In the latter place Evans encountered Skiff and Dieffenbaugh, and there was some discussion over money matters, which finally resulted in a bet being offered and taken that Evans did not have \$20 at Whittaker's place. Evans deposited a dollar and went to Whittaker's place with Skiff to prove that he had left \$20 there. When he asked Mr. Whittaker for the money the proprietor of the place promptly handed him two \$10 bills and Evans and Skiff returned to Steinmitz's place.

and shortly afterwards Evans started for home. It was then between 11 and 12 o'clock. He was walking briskly along the street when, as he passed by Whitney's leather establishment, somebody struck him on the head with a club, smashing his derby hat to pieces and the force of the blow was such that he fell to the ground instantly. The club made a deep scalp wound, tearing the skin and causing the blood to flow freely, but his assailants did not give him time to recover himself as they promptly jumped on him; one grasping him by the throat with such force that he still bears finger marks, and placing a hand over Evans' mouth as an additional precaution against an alarm, while the other struck at him with a club a second time. Mr. Evans held up his right hand to ward off the blow and the weapon struck his fingers.

While one of the men was holding him the other went through his clothing and tried to find his money. It happened, however, that Mr. Evans had placed the two \$10 bills and the \$1 bill in the little watch pocket of his trousers and in the haste the assailants did not look in that pocket. All that they could find was a two-dollar bill and some silver change, which they took. While he was being robbed Mr. Evans retained his senses and was not blindfolded. Consequently he is positive of the identity of the men who assaulted and robbed him and positively identified Skiff and Dieffenbaugh as the men.

Last night Evans appeared before Acting Recorder Haviland and a warrant was sworn out for the arrest of the two young men on a charge of robbery in the first degree. The warrants were placed in possession of Officer Louis Sperber and between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning Sperber and Officers Hulburt and Nichols proceeded to Skiff's home on Mill street, woke him up and placed him under arrest. Dieffenbaugh was also arrested in the same manner and placed in another cell at the station house. This morning they were arraigned before Acting Recorder Haviland and both waived counsel and also waived examination. They were then committed to the jail in this city to await the action of the grand jury on their cases.