New-York Tribune.

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DR. WEBB DENIES IT ALL

SAYS HE KNOWS NOTHING OF MEYER DEALINGS.

DECLARES THAT THE VANDERBILTS HAVE NOT "RUSHED TO HIS RESCUE"—NEVER HEARD OF OFFENBACH & MOORE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Burlington, Vt., May 4.—Dr. W. Seward Webb left Shelburne to-night on his private car for New-York. Concerning yesterday's developments of the so-called Webb-Meyer syndicate's affairs, the doctor, through his secretary, issued this statement:

"Again I wish to emphasize my statement of yesterday that I have no interest whatever in the Meyer dealings. Having no interest in them, I am not informed as to the state of affairs resulting from the disturbances they have caused. I cannot account for the use of my name in connection with the Meyer stocks, as I have no connection with them.

"The newspapers are filled with sensational stories regarding my association with the fallen stocks. These accounts are entirely unfounded in so far as my connection with them is concerned. The whole affair has assumed disgusting proportions.

"Barring the rumor that a warrant had been issued for an arrest, I have heard of no arrests being made. Knowing nothing of the truth of these stories, I cannot express any opinion."

As to the so-called "Webb brokers, Offenbach and Moore," Dr. Webb says he knows nothing of the existence of such a firm. He further denied the story that the Vanderbilt family had rushed to his rescue. His only dealing of recent date with Arthur L. Meyer, he said, was an arrangement whereby he should take what Rutland Railroad stock remained in Mr. Meyer's possession at the present time. Dr. Webb now owns practically all of the Rutland stock. Late to-night he sent the following telegram to prominent members of the Vanderbilt family in New-York:

"Pay no attention to the sensational articles published by newspapers regarding my connection with the Meyer stocks. These accounts are entirely unfounded."

TO AVERT A FURTHER SLUMP.

CONFERENCE AT MEYER'S HOUSE—FINANCIAL BACKING SAID TO HAVE BEEN SECURED.

There were conflicting reports last night as to the probable developments in the so-called Webb-Meyer syndicate properties at the opening of the stock market this morning. Early in the evening a dispatch was received in this city from Burlington, Vt., that Dr. W. Seward Webb had announced that he had no association with the fallen stocks, and that he had sent telegrams to the various members of the Vanderbilt family warning them not to pay any attention to the reports that he was connected with Arthur L. Meyer, who is looked upon as the active head of the syndicate.

It developed in the course of the day that Mr. Meyer had been in the city ever since Saturday evening, and that he had been holding conferences all day with his counsel and certain financiers. Among those present at the last conference at Mr. Meyer's house, No. 38 West Seventy-second-st., were G. Creighton Webb, brother of Dr. Webb; Henry L. Sprague, who negotiated the sale of the Hackensack Meadows, which is the chief asset of the Hackensack Meadows Company, in which the syndicate is also involved; Benjamin P. Moore, of the firm of Offenbach & Moore, and Mr. Meyer.

As a result of the conference it was decided not to give out any statement, but one of the conferrees intimated that financial backing had been secured, so that there would not be any dangerous slump in the syndicate's properties when the exchange opens to-day. It was also said that a statement would be given out by a member of the syndicate early to-day, which would serve to restore public confidence in these securities.

After the conference at Mr. Meyer's house, G. Creighton Webb said that his brother would arrive in this city this morning and would give out an extended statement.

According to one report, the Hanover Bank will now come to the aid of the syndicate, through the influence of Samuel R. Callaway, president of the American Locomotive Company, who represents in this matter certain Vanderbilt interests. A certain broker who has done business for the Webb-Meyer syndicate said last night that he understood that secure financial backing had been obtained, and that no slump in these securities was feared to-day.

As a matter of fact, several brokers who have been doing business for Mr. Meyer called on him Saturday, and were told that he would remargin his loans on Monday. The necessity for remargining had been caused by the slump in prices on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Altogether, it is said, the syndicate had borrowed from $1,500,000 to $2,000,000 on securities in which it has been chiefly interested. These loans have been made through brokers in this city and in the New-England States.

One of these brokers who has made large loans to the syndicate said yesterday:

"The flurry of Saturday came to me as a great surprise. I had always considered the stocks to be backed by substantial interests. The name of Dr. Webb itself has strengthened this conviction in my mind, and I believe that as soon as he can reach the city and call into line the financial backing and the men with whom he has influence everything will be straightened out."

Courtlandt Babcock, head of the firm of Courtlandt Babcock & Co., which has done some brokerage business for the syndicate, said yesterday:

"Mr. Meyer has promised us that he will remargin the amount of paper outstanding on Monday morning. If this is done there can be no serious or disastrous consequences. I understand he will be able to do so. If no new margin is made those brokers who have been doing business for the syndicate will be greatly embarrassed, and a failure or two will be inevitable."

"Do you regard $1,500,000 of loans as moderate for the class of collateral?" was asked.

"I do not think that these loans would exceed these figures very much. The securities that are figured in these loans as far as I have had connection with them are the stocks of the St. Lawrence and Adirondack Railroad and the Rutland Railroad."

Mr. Callaway was said to be in Atlantic City yesterday when inquiry was made at his home.

Justice Giegerich yesterday admitted that an order of arrest had been issued for one man connected with the dealings of the Meyer syndicate, but would say nothing further. It is, nevertheless, rumored that an attempt will be made to serve the warrant this morning when Stock Exchange business begins. That this will be done only in case the firm is unable to meet its

Continued on second page.

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES

of seventy-seven hotels, fifty-five clubs, forty-four theaters and thousands of residences is the Grand Central Station of the New York Central—with a train every hour for the North and West.—Advt.

SOME LEADING REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS FREQUENTLY SUGGESTED FOR STATE NOMINATIONS.

J. B. H. Mongin. Nathan L. Miller. John G. Milburn. William E. Werner. B. B. Odell. Timothy L. Woodruff. Tracy C. Becker. John Clinton Gray.

(Photograph by Rockwood.)

Edward M. Shepard. George M. Palmer. Bird S. Coler. David B. Hill. Alton B. Parker. Edward A. Bond. Frank W. Higgins. John T. McDonough.

STATE POLITICAL POSSIBILITIES

EARLY TALK ABOUT REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS—MR. HILL'S "LITERARY BUREAU."

GOVERNOR ODELL'S RETICENT ATTITUDE.

Albany, May 4 (Special).—Politicians are watching keenly every development of the State political contest this year. That contest appears to be in progress, although it is only May, and the November election day is far distant. But David B. Hill chose to precipitate the conflict usual in a political year by assailing in his New-York speech on Jefferson's birthday both the national and the State administrations; and Benjamin B. Odell, jr., who knows something about politics himself, under cover of a dissertation on the State tax rate, at once compared effectively, to the advantage of the Republican party, its administration of the financial affairs of the State with that of Roswell P. Flower, the last Democrat who was Governor of the State. Governor Odell made plain the fact that direct State taxation has been practically abolished. In 1894, when Mr. Flower's term expired, the direct State tax imposed was $9,155,742 88. If the Governor retires from office on the expiration of his term on December 31 he will know that the tax for that fiscal year will be only $748,000.

Mr. Hill must be aware that Mr. Odell's statement has made a profound impression upon the voters, for he has thought it necessary, with the co-operation of Bird S. Coler, to establish a literary bureau here in Albany; and soon, it may be expected, the Democratic newspapers will receive carefully prepared statements assailing the Republican administration of the State. It can be predicted that all the acts of Governors Morton, Black, Roosevelt and Odell will be reviewed in an unfriendly spirit. Especial attention, of course, will be paid to Governor Odell's administration. It is thought that the headquarters of Mr. Hill's literary bureau will be in the Ten Eyck Hotel. This is only about three minutes' walk from Mr. Hill's law offices, in Broadway. But the telephone service of Albany is also good, and Mr. Hill therefore will not be obliged to make any personal visits to his bureau.

Patrick W. Cullinan, the State Excise Commissioner, when informed that the Democratic leaders would soon establish a literary bureau here, said:

Well, they won't make any progress in rural New-York if they assail the Republican administration's financial policy. I have just been up State, and find the State administration solid as a rock in the affections of the people. My judgment is that Mr. Odell is much stronger than he was a month ago. You cannot free people from taxation without its having a powerful political effect. The farmers of the State appreciate low taxes, and I believe they will show their sentiments at the polls in November.

Failing to make any impression upon the rural voters, it is thought that Mr. Hill will endeavor to win votes for the Democratic party in the big cities of the State, and especially in New-York and Buffalo. Attacks will be unremittingly made, it is believed, on the administration of Mayor Low in New-York and Mayor Knight in Buffalo. It may be stated, however, that the longer these two administrations are tested the more are voters convinced of the intention of the Republican mayors to act in the public interest. It is quite probable, therefore, that the Democratic reaction hoped for by Mr. Hill and his friends will not start in the cities mentioned and lead to the giving by them of sufficient majorities to put a Democrat in the executive chair at Albany.

But will the Democratic party be united this year? Bird S. Coler, who has not had many years of experience in politics, thinks it will be. Mr. Croker, who never had a high opinion of Mr. Coler, may not agree with him. Mr. Coler said here on Thursday: "The fights in the Democratic party this year will be limited to the primaries; there will be union at the Democratic State Convention." Possibly there may be union on the surface, but will there be at the polls? Last fall here in Albany there was an ostentatious exhibition of harmony in the Democratic party, but near Election Day the ominous report went about that the Herrick Democrats, who had not nominated their candidate for Mayor, were saying: "We are going to support the regular Democratic candidate for Mayor—until we enter the ballot booth." And the Republican candidate for Mayor received a big vote in the Herrick wards, and was elected.

Mr. Hill is not a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor, nor would he accept it; nor is his friend, Alton B. Parker, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. Both have been surveying Democratic politics for years, and are aware of the nature of the men who have recently swayed the fortunes of the party, which is yet torn with dissension. Richard Croker and Edward Murphy, jr., for many years had control of the organization, and they have many friends still in powerful positions in it. Mr. Croker is in exile in England. What does he think of Mr. Hill's prominence at present? Mr. Murphy no longer controls a Mayor of Troy. His friends say he has been deprived of his power by the secret attacks upon him of other Democrats. What will be his opinion this fall of Mr. Hill's leadership of the Democratic party? Mr. Hill's friends are not blind concerning the possible attitude of Mr. Croker and Mr. Murphy. One of the most prominent of them said recently: "What! Mr. Hill accept the nomination for Governor with his knife sticking deep in the back of Tammany Hall ever since last fall, and the chiefs of Tammany Hall knowing just who it was who gave that thrust!"

There is frequent mention of Chief Judge Parker as possibly a candidate of the Democratic party for Governor, but it is known positively that the judge does not desire the nomination, and would not accept it. His term as Chief Judge does not expire until 1911, and the work of that position is congenial to him. Besides, it is apparent that Democrats of other States favor his nomination for President in 1904. His friends, therefore, would naturally think it impolitic for him to put that nomination in peril by accepting the Democratic nomination for Governor. Defeated for Governor, they could not possibly hope to nominate him for President two years later.

Talk about the Republican nomination for Governor is naturally held in check owing to Governor Odell's desire not to come to any decision about his own attitude toward that nomination until after his return from California. When the Governor completed his examination of the bills left on his hands by the legislature he was exceedingly fatigued and badly needed a rest. Practically for a year and a half he had been constantly at work for the State. Clearly it has not been the Governor's policy to guide his decisions upon politic measures with a thought of their bearing upon the question of his renomination. It is probable that he has made some enemies by this course, but this enmity must be endured; every Governor who endeavors faithfully to serve the people of the State will have to meet it.

Some time ago the Republican politicians who came to Albany were positive that Senator Frank W. Higgins, of Olean, would be nominated for Lieutenant Governor by the Republican State Convention. Now they are just as confident that Lieutenant Governor Woodruff will be renominated a third time, and that he will accept the tender. As for Senator Higgins, the fact may be stated that the Western New-York Republicans believe he will be renominated for Senator from the Cattaraugus-Chautauqua district, and resume his old position at the head of the Senate Finance Committee. The re-election of Senator Higgins would be accompanied by the re-election of S. Fred Nixon as Assemblyman from Chautauqua County, and his re-election as Speaker.

J. B. H. Mongin, of Waterloo, Seneca County, Deputy Secretary of State, is a candidate for the Republican nomination for Secretary of State. Mr. Mongin first became Deputy Secretary of State under John Palmer in 1894. He is naturally thoroughly acquainted with the duties of the office. Another candidate for this nomination is Senator Thornton, of Sullivan County, who, having had two terms as Senator, cannot hope to be renominated.

Controller Nathan L. Miller, of Cortland County, who was appointed by Governor Odell when Controller Knight resigned the office to accept the post of Mayor of Buffalo, will undoubtedly be nominated for Controller.

It begins to look also as if Edward A. Bond, of Watertown, the State Engineer, would receive the compliment of a nomination for a third term. Senator Platt, when he was here a month ago, expressed himself as favoring Mr. Bond's renomination, saying that the position of State Engineer was not a political one. Mr. Bond has had charge of the work of road improvement, and it would indeed be a misfortune to the State to have a man less competent than himself take charge of it.

There are several candidates for the Republican nomination for Attorney General. One of them is Henry B. Coman, of Morrisville, Madison County, the present First Deputy Attorney General. Mr. Coman, in company with J. Newton Fiero, has managed the State's side of the Franchise Tax suits ever since they were instituted in the courts. Another candidate is Judge G. D. B. Hasbrouck, of Kingston, one of the judges of the Court of Claims. Mr. Hasbrouck has had experience in the Attorney General's office, having been appointed First Deputy Attorney General in 1894, and having held that position for several years, when he resigned his place and opened a law office in New-York. Still another candidate is Tracy C. Becker, a leading Republican lawyer of Buffalo, a member of the law firm of Roberts, Becker, Messer & Grout, of which ex-Controller James A. Roberts is the senior partner. Mr. Becker in 1894 was president of the State Bar Association, and also a member of the Constitutional Convention.

It is rumored here that State Treasurer Jaeckel, of Auburn, is a candidate for renomination for a third term.

No Democrats seem to be brought forward for any nomination except that of Governor, and David B. Hill by general consent appears to have had put in his hands all the nominating powers of the approaching Democratic State Convention. Mr. Hill, however, gives no sign that he has any candidate yet selected. The candidates thus far popularly named are Bird S. Coler, Edward M. Shepard, Assemblyman George M. Palmer, John B. Stanchfield, Norman E. Mack and John G. Milburn, of Buffalo, and Frederick Cook, of Rochester.

Mr. Hill probably intends to pick out a man he thinks may be a winner after the Republican State Convention has presented its candidate for Governor.

A nomination for Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals will also be made this year, the term of Judge John Clinton Gray, who was elected in 1888, expiring on December 31. Judge Gray was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeals by Governor Hill in 1888, Judge Rapallo having died, and he was elected to the bench in the fall of 1888, having been nominated by the Democratic State Convention. Judge Gray's friends say that of course he would have no opposition for a renomination in the Democratic State Convention this year, but they are also hoping that he will receive a nomination at the hands of the Republican party. There are two Republican candidates for the Republican nomination, however—John T. McDonough, of Albany, the present Secretary of State, and Judge William E. Werner, of Rochester, at present a member of the Court of Appeals under a designation by Governor Roosevelt.

AMPLE TIME FOR THE THEATRE

if you take the Lackawanna Railroad to Buffalo at 2 a. m. Sleepers open 9 p. m.—Advt.

FEAR THAT A STRIKE IS NEAR.

MINE WORKERS, HOWEVER, STILL LOOKING TO MR. HANNA FOR HELP—STATEMENT BY THE SENATOR.

THE "LAST WORD" SPOKEN

SITUATION THREATENING, ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT MITCHELL—WEDNESDAY THE CRUCIAL DAY.

There seemed to be still a faint hope among the representatives of the anthracite miners who were in this city yesterday that there was a possibility of averting a strike; yet they were all somewhat depressed. It was learned that on Saturday night, after Mr. Mitchell had given out his statement at the Ashland House, in which he said that all negotiations were off and that a vote on the strike would be taken tomorrow, Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the National Civic Federation, had hurried to the Ashland House and gone out with Mr. Mitchell, taking a copy of the latter's statement with him.

Mr. Easley had a talk over the long distance telephone with Senator Hanna in Philadelphia, putting him in possession of the developments, and it was reported that Mitchell had also a talk with Senator Hanna. Mitchell would not say yesterday that he talked with the Senator, but admitted that he was with Mr. Easley when the latter talked with Senator Hanna.

The mine workers, it is said, think that Senator Hanna may yet do something to avert the strike, though none of them would talk about it.

President Mitchell, when seen yesterday at the Ashland House, was asked if the miners would make any more attempts in the interests of peace.

"We have spoken our last word," he said, "and the time for action has arrived. As I said in my statement on Saturday night, the situation is very threatening. When the twenty-eight members of our executive committee for the three anthracite districts meet in Scranton on Wednesday it will be for them to decide on a strike. I did not hear from Senator Hanna today, and I do not expect to hear from him. I do not know when he will call the meeting of the conciliation committee, if he does call it."

Mitchell said that two of the presidents of the three anthracite districts who are still here will start for Scranton to-day, and he will leave here to-morrow for Scranton. He would look after some matters of local interest only in some of the bituminous regions to-day, but they were not important. He declined to talk on the subject of the quantity of anthracite mined during the truce of thirty days.

"Is it a fact that coal was stored up?" he was asked.

"I don't care to say anything about that at this time," he replied.

"Are you in a position to know if the companies have a large quantity of anthracite in storage?"

"I know the whole situation," he said, "but cannot talk on it now."

E. B. Thomas, of the Erie Railroad, one of the committee of seven representing the coal companies, sent word that he had nothing to say yesterday when a reporter sought his views.

President Truesdale of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad was also seen.

"Are you preparing for a strike?" he was asked.

"We don't need to prepare," he said. "We are still mining coal."

"Do you think there will be a strike?"

"I won't talk on the question," he replied.

In reply to another question, he said the operators would probably have attended if Senator Hanna had called another meeting of the conciliation committee.

"But," he added, "the conciliation committee apparently does not intend to have the meeting."

Mr. Easley was seen last evening, but would say nothing regarding Senator Hanna's statement made in Philadelphia.

QUEEN'S ILLNESS CRITICAL

DISQUIETING NEWS COMES FROM THE HAGUE.

SMALL HOPE ENTERTAINED FOR THE RECOVERY OF WILHELMINA—PREMATURE CONFINEMENT.

The Hague, May 5.—It was announced from Castle Loo at midnight last night that Queen Wilhelmina had been prematurely confined at 6 o'clock on Sunday evening. Professor Rosenstein, Dr. Roessingh and the other doctors were in attendance. The Queen suffered intense agony.

At 11 o'clock on Sunday evening the condition of her majesty was described as critical, and small hope for her recovery was entertained.

JAPANESE FISHERMEN LOST.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY PERISH IN A STORM.

Yokohama, May 4.—Two hundred and fifty fishermen are reported to have been drowned in a gale which has made havoc of the herring fishing fleet on the west coast of Japan.

The Japanese cruiser Musashi was driven ashore, but her crew were saved.

The best Cough remedy of the century is JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.—Advt.

NOT TO MEET AGAIN.

INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO MR. EASLEY NOT TO CALL CONCILIATION COMMITTEE TOGETHER.

Philadelphia, May 4.—Senator Hanna, in an interview to-day with a reporter for The Associated Press characterized the situation in the anthracite coal region as extremely delicate, and for that reason said it would be unwise for him to express an opinion as to the probable result of the meeting of the executive committee of the United Mine Workers for the three anthracite districts called for next Wednesday, at Scranton, by President Mitchell. The Senator added that he was officially informed to-day by Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the National Civic Federation, of the statement issued last night by President Mitchell in New-York. He had immediately telegraphed to Mr. Easley, instructing him to refrain from calling another meeting of the conciliation committee, as that procedure would be useless in view of the latest development.

Senator Hanna said that he had been awaiting a report from the sub-committee of the conciliation committee, but that Mr. Mitchell's statement had anticipated it. The work of the conciliation committee ended when it had brought together the operators and the representatives of the miners' union. He added that nothing more could be done unless there were some developments. He continued:

I want to emphasize the fact that the conferences between the operators and miners were satisfactory. Three conferences were held, and the proceedings were conducted in the best spirit. I think the operators formed a favorable impression of Mr. Mitchell and gave him credit for honesty and sincerity in his efforts to change the conditions of the miners. On the other hand Mr. Mitchell appreciated the consideration shown him and the interests he represents. Unless a bitter and protracted strike should occur, I believe much good will come out of the conferences. I am of the opinion that they will lead to better conditions between capital and labor.

I am in favor of meetings between employer and employes to consider differences. I want the people thoroughly to understand the position of the Civic Federation. It can do only two things—exert its influence to prevent a strike or arbitrate when a rupture has occurred, at the request of both parties to the dispute. In this case the Civic Federation has done all within its province. It brought together through its conciliation committee the representatives of the miners' union and the operators. In the evolution of things rapidly taking place in this country the conference of employers and employes is one of the conditions that must necessarily be a part of it. The progress and development of our industries must be accompanied by the development and improvement of the laboring class.

Asked if the Civic Federation had experienced any difficulty in arranging the conferences between the operators and the miners, Senator Hanna said: "On the contrary, I found that the operators were quite willing to go half way in this matter. They are all sensible, broadgauge business men, who, while they desire to protect their own interests, are wise enough to see the drift of things. The peculiar situation of the anthracite mining industry makes the proposition most difficult. The combination of the railroad and mining interests brings forward the question of tonnage, and this and threatened competition from the enormous production of bituminous coal constitute matters which must be considered. This is the foundation of the operators' argument. It is not a mere selfish interest that impels them to the stand they have taken, but the proposition is difficult to explain to the rank and file of the workers in and about the mines. It is my hope that when they are educated to understand these conditions they may be considerate, and not governed by prejudice in future actions.

"If my advice had been followed a longer time would have been taken before the present crisis was reached, in order that these things could be explained and better understood. President Mitchell's statement was hastened by the fact that the scraps of information given to the public were embarrassing him with his men. When it is considered that two-thirds of the mine workers are foreigners, speaking six, eight or ten different languages, it can be readily understood that they are difficult to control."

Referring to President Mitchell's visit to Washington last week, Senator Hanna said: "I saw Mr. Mitchell in Washington, and discussed with him another proposition, but that has been obviated by the existing situation."

MINERS READY TO GO OUT.

IN THE NINTH DISTRICT 52,000 MEN AND BOYS WOULD BE IDLE.

Shamokin, Penn., May 4.—Local members of the special miners' committee returned from New-York to-day. They were discouraged over the refusal of the operators to grant an eight hour workday, weighing of coal at the mines and an increase in wages. Notice has been sent to members of this (the ninth) district executive board to go to Scranton to attend the convention of the three district boards to decide whether to call a strike or order a general convention of miners to resolve how to treat with the situation. The board from this district will go to Scranton Tuesday.

In case of tie-up 52,000 men and boys will be idle in the Ninth District. Many miners here to-night said they are ready to cease work whenever ordered to do so.

$50 00 TO CALIFORNIA

and return from Chicago May 27 to June 8, via Chicago & North-Western, Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Rys. The electric lighted "Overland Limited" provides the best of everything. Offices, 461, 287 & 349 B'way.—Advt.

MORO FORT STORMED.

GALLANT PERFORMANCE OF AMERICAN ARMS.

DATTOS KILLED IN HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING IN THE DITCHES—AMERICAN LOSS SEVERE.

Manila, May 4.—General Davis, the commander of the American forces in the island of Mindanao, cables that the eighty-four Moros who survived the attack and capture of the Moro fort by American soldiers in Mindanao yesterday have surrendered, and that the Sultan of Bayan, Rajah Muda, Sultan Panda Padto and a number of the leading dattos were killed in the engagement.

The assault on the principal fort, reports General Davis, was one of the most gallant performances of American arms in the Philippines, and the regiment of Lieutenant Colonel Frank D. Baldwin, the 4th Infantry, deserves the greatest credit for its conduct. The men of the 4th Infantry had a hand-to-hand struggle with the Moros in the four lines of ditches under the walls of the fort. When the position was captured these ditches were found to be lined with Moro dead. General Davis characterizes the rifle fire of the Americans as excellent, and says he has never witnessed a performance excelling the capture of the Moro fort in gallantry and grit.

General Davis says also that it is his painful duty to announce that the overthrow of Moro power was not accomplished without severe loss to the Americans. One officer and seven enlisted men were killed, while four officers and thirty-nine enlisted men were wounded.

Lieutenant Bovars, of the 27th Infantry, was killed in the engagement at the fort. Captain Moore, of the same regiment, was mortally wounded, and Surgeon Porter and Lieutenant Henry S. Wagner, of the 14th Infantry, and Lieutenant Jossman, of the 27th Infantry, were severely wounded.

After the eighty-four Moros who survived the assault had marched out of the fort, eight others who were concealed there made an unsuccessful break for liberty.

Some of the Moro wounded tried to stab the American soldiers who were succoring them.

It is impossible to give the total of Moro dead, as many of them are lying in the tall grass. The fort was defended by three hundred men. Its capture saves a siege, and it would have been impossible to carry the position without scaling ladders.

General Davis further reports his intention of retaining his prisoners until the few adjacent Moro forts are occupied. Then, with the consent of General Chaffee, he will retain ten of his principal captives as hostages and release the others.

The American forces who attacked the fort numbered 470 men and four mountain guns. It rained hard during the night preceding the attack, and the men were without blankets. The battery fired 120 rounds at a range of 1,400 yards.

General Davis adds that he is sending the dead to Malabang for burial. He intends to invite the Sultan of Tarace to an interview. His fort is of the same strength as Bayan, the one captured yesterday. General Davis is urging the people to return to the cultivation of rice.

GENERAL DAVIS'S STORY OF THE FIGHT.

A BLOW THAT WILL MAKE THE WILD MOROS RESPECT AMERICAN SOVEREIGNTY.

Washington, May 4.—The War Department to-day received a cable dispatch from General Chaffee indicating that the campaign against Sultan Bayan, one of the principal Moro chiefs, had been completely successful. The result was accomplished by a gallant assault on the principal Moro fort and its capture after a number of the leading Moros had been killed. The dispatch, which was received this afternoon, was as follows:

Adjutant General, Washington:

The following is the full substance of Brigadier General George W. Davis's message from Bayan:

"Eighty-four survivors; Bayan surrendered unconditionally this morning at 7; Sultan Bayan, Raja Muda Bayan, Sultan Panda Pado and all leading dattos dead and many of their followers. Assault on the principal fort, which surrendered last night, one of the most gallant performances of American arms. Colonel Frank D. Baldwin and his regiment deserve all praise for hand-to-hand struggle in four lines of ditches under walls of fort. These trenches are lined with Moro dead from rifle fire. Have never seen or heard of any performance excelling this in gallantry and grit.

"It is my painful duty to report that the overthrow of Moro power was not accomplished without severe loss. One officer and seven enlisted men killed; four officers and thirty-seven enlisted men wounded. Will telegraph the list later.

"After eighty-four survivors marched out this morning as prisoners—and it was understood they were all—eight others, who had concealed themselves in rubbish inside the fort, made a break for liberty, tried way out; but none succeeded. Some Moro wounded tried to stab soldiers trying to help them. It is impossible to state the number of Moros killed; many lying in tall grass. The surrender saves us from siege and starving out. Impossible to have carried works without scaling ladders, which were ready. Intend to retain prisoners until two or three small adjacent forts occupied; then, with your consent, to retain as hostages eight or ten of the principals and release the others.

"The force in line of advance consisted of four mountain guns, 470 rifles. This fully sufficient. Could not have used more men advantageously. Had we sent strong column it would only have swelled the casualty list. One neighboring datto has already presented himself as friend, and I expect a general coming in shortly, when the weight of the blow is known. The dead sent to Malabang for burial.

"In light of present knowledge could have besieged the principal forts and in time forced surrender, but that would probably have resulted in a sortie for freedom and escape for many. By attacking them they have been completely crushed—the only kind of lesson these wild Moros seem to be able to profit by. Shall invite Sultan of Tarlac to pay me a friendly visit, if he does not do so of his own initiative. Has fort further east in plain sight and of same strength as was Bayan, on beautiful tableland; thousand acres fine upland rice, and urging people to return to its cultivation.

"The result to follow this action very important, namely—it secures respect for United States authority in the centre of Moro savagery." CHAFFEE.

PRESIDENT THANKS CHAFFEE.

Washington, May 4.—The President to-night sent the following congratulatory dispatch to General Chaffee:

Washington, May 4.

Chaffee, Manila.

Accept for the army under your command, and express to General Davis and Colonel Baldwin, especially, my congratulations and thanks for the splendid courage and fidelity which have again carried our flag to victory. Your fellow countrymen at home will ever honor the memory of the fallen, and be faithful to the brave survivors who have themselves been faithful unto death for their country's sake.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT