

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The President received a telegram last night from the Acting Governor of Wyoming, in which he said:

"About sixty-one owners of live stock are reported to have made an armed expedition into Johnson County for the purpose of protecting their live stock and preventing unlawful round-ups by rustlers. They are at 'T. A.' Ranch, thirteen miles from Fort McKinney, and are besieged by Sheriff and posse and by rustlers from that section of the country, said to be two or three hundred in number. The wagons of stockmen were captured and taken away from them, and it is reported a battle took place yesterday, during which a number of men were killed. Great excitement prevails. Both parties are very determined, and it is feared that if successful will show no mercy to the persons captured. The civil authorities are unable to prevent violence. The situation is serious, and immediate assistance will probably prevent great loss of life."

The President informed the Secretary of War that the above statement, in his opinion, made "a case under section 4 of Article IV. of the Constitution that justifies the use of the army of the United States to protect the State of Wyoming against domestic violence," and directed him to take immediate steps to send a sufficient force to the scene of the trouble and to co-operate with the Governor in restoring order.

Gen. Schofield ordered troops at Fort McKinney to the scene at once. There are at that post three companies of the Eighth Infantry and three troops of the Sixth Cavalry.

A telegram was received at the War Department this afternoon from Brig. Gen. Brooks, at Omaha, Neb., transmitting the following telegram from Col. J. J. Van Horn, Eighth Infantry, at Fort McKinney, Wyoming:

"Your telegram of this date, referring to the President's order to furnish a sufficient force to co-operate with the Governor in suppressing disorder, just received. [12:50 A. M.] Three troops of cavalry are now preparing to move and will start for the 'T. A.' Ranch, the scene of the disturbance, in about two hours. It appears that a body of about fifty armed men, known as regulators and supposed to be in the employ of large cattle owners, left the vicinity of Casper about the 6th inst. and proceeded to a point on the north fork of Powder River sixty miles from the post known as the 'K. C.' Ranch, where they killed two men and burned the ranch. This on the 9th inst.

"This body of men is now at the 'T. A.' Ranch, about sixteen miles from the post on the north fork of Crazy Woman, where they are strongly entrenched and defending themselves against the Sheriff's posse, who has them surrounded. The wagons owned by the regulators have been captured by the Sheriff's posse. They contained supplies of ammunition, dynamite, and personal baggage. One of the teamsters has divulged the names of the regulators. He says the expedition is officered by Major Wolcott, Frank Canton, and Fred Hesse. The entire country is aroused by the killing at 'K. C.' Ranch, and some of the best citizens are in the posse. Reports have been forwarded by mail on the 11th and 12th inst., giving full particulars. I shall accompany the troops."