EXPLORERS FIGHT AMAZON SAVAGES

Prof. A. H. Rice Arrives Home— Tells of Thrilling Escape from Huge Cannibals.

TRIBESMEN NEARLY WHITE

Mrs. Rice Said to Have Gone

Farther Into Jungles Than
Any Other Woman.

A thrilling story of a running fight

with cannibals in the wilderness along the Amazon River in South America was told last night by Professor Alexander Hamilton Rice, who came to port with members of his exploring party on the steamer Alban. The expedition which Professor Rice headed left here last July and proceeded to Para, Brazil, from which point the members penetrated to hitherto unexplored sections of the country of the Amazon.

Accompanying Professor Rice on the trip was his wife, Chester H. Ober, of Newport, R. I., Dr. Guy E. Byers of

Roosevelt Hospital, John C. Couzins and several personal attendants. Professor Rice said the Rio Negro and other outlets of the Amazon were charted, besides portions of the upper Orinoco River. He brought back with him many specimens which he announced he would present to the Peabody Museum of Harvard University, as he had done in the past.

Describing his fight with the cannibals, who, he said, were almost white in color, Professor Rice said:

"Early in January Mr. Ober, who is connected with the Geodetic Survey of

Raudaul Guaharibos. The place was seven days' journey from our base.

Attacked by 200 Savages.

"In due time we reached the island and started at our task with very satisfactory results. We were about fin-

our Government, and 1, accompanied by a Venezuelan named Fuentes, left our base at Esmeralda, Brazil, to map

out ground on a small island known as

ished and ready to return to Esmeralda when one of the Indian guides of our party happened to glance across the river, which at that point was about

ninety feet wide. He pointed to a naked

savage running through the jungle undergrowth.

"The alarm was immediately given and we fired several shots at the savage. As we did this a signal was given by the man and more than 200 of his kind, almost white in color, sprang up from the bushes just across from us. In all my years of experience in the tropical jungles I have never seen such a ferocious group of men. Nearly all of them were armed with bows and arrows and many carried spears and blow guns. The savages averaged more than six feet tall and I recognized them at once as cannibals of the Guaribos tribe, considered the most ferocious of

"I believe these cannibals have been seen but once before by outsiders, and on that occasion by Ensign Bobadilla, in 1763, during his explorations under the direction of the Spanish Government. This tribe are neighbors of the Narqui tribes, who hold them in deathly fear.

"When the savages made their appearance we attempted to parley with them in the Indian dialects that we knew, but without avail. As we were talking with them they suddenly rushed into the stream, holding their bows above their heads. The only arms our party had were a revolver, a shotgun and a rifle.

This succeeded in stopping their charge against us. They later made four other attempts, but were unable to carry out their purpose."

No Sleep for Four Days.

Professor Rice said that about twenty minutes after the cannibals were first seen the camp equipment and instruments were packed into the canoes and the trip back to Esmeralda was started with all possible haste.

"For four days and nights sleep was the week on the canoes and nights sleep was the cappaigness of the week on the cappaigness."

With these weapons we fired volley after volley, killing several of their number.

impossible," he went on. "The savages, who apparently had no boats of any sort, and who, I believe, did not know how to use them if they did have canoes, pursued us along the river bank. It seems almost miraculous that none of our party was injured. After the fourth day the tribesmen became disheartened over their inability to capture us for a meal and they gave up the chase. Three days later we arrived back in Esmeralda none the worse for our thrilling experience."

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Professor Rice said that on this trip to the Amazon, the seventh he had made in nineteen years, Mrs. Rice penetrated further into the Amazon jungles than any other white woman reaching Esmeralda. Mrs. Rice was formerly the wife of George D. Widener of Philadelphia, who was lost on the Titanic.

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