

DREYFUS FACES MERCIER.

Demands That the General Shall Declare His Innocence.

Mercier Is Hissed, While His Victim Is Encouraged by Wild Applause—Dreyfus Attorney Assassinated.

Rennes, Aug. 12.—The session of the Dreyfus court martial today was theater-like and interesting in the extreme. Dreyfus was wildly cheered by the crowd of people present, while his principal enemy, General Mercier, was openly hissed. The demonstrations may be accepted as indicating the change of sentiment which the public are undergoing towards this wonderful case. Dreyfus, on entering the court room today, saluted the president with soldierly mien as on Monday last, and the president, Colonel Jouaust, returning the salute, said: "Sit down, Dreyfus."

One of the earliest witnesses called was Casimir-Perier, formerly president of the republic, who was questioned at length concerning the case. He denied many of the sensational statements made associating him with it, and said in concluding a dramatic speech: "I will not leave this place until I have left an unalterable conviction that I know nothing which might throw light on the case and that I have said all I know. I intend to do this, not because I can add anything useful to what I have already said, but out of respect to my conscience, my judges and to the opinion of men of good faith."

His words were received with applause. He denied that his resignation from the presidency was due to any diplomatic relations with Germany on the subject, denied that he had ever received a copy of an alleged confession by Dreyfus, and read a letter from Prince Hohenlohe, of Germany, denying that the German embassy had any connection with the Dreyfus affair.

General Mercier was the next witness called and it was observed that he was very nervous and ill at ease. It was during his testimony that one of the day's most dramatic scenes transpired.

At the end of his evidence, General Mercier said he believed the only motive of Dreyfus' treason was that Dreyfus had no feeling of patriotism. This cruel utterance brought forth hisses from the audience, whose blood had been sent up to fever heat by the witness' savage attacks on Dreyfus. General Mercier, heeding the hisses, terminated with remarking:

"If the least doubt crossed my mind, gentlemen, I would be the first to declare it to you, and say before you, to Captain Dreyfus, 'I was mistaken, but in good faith.'"

Then Dreyfus electrified his hearers. He jumped to his feet as though the words had galvanized him into new life, and shouted with a voice which rang throughout the hall like a trumpet note: "That is what you ought to say."

The audience burst into a wild cheer, whereupon the ushers called for silence. General Mercier then stammered:

"I would come and say, 'Captain Dreyfus, I was mistaken in good faith, and I come with the same good faith to admit it, and I will do all in my human power to repair the frightful error.'"

The prisoner then shouted, "Why don't you, then? That is your duty. At this there was another outburst of applause.

Gen. Mercier, after a pause, when the excitement had partially calmed, said: "Well, no. My conviction since 1894 has not suffered the slightest weakening. It is fortified by the deepest study of the dossier and also by the inanity of the means resorted to for the purpose of proving the innocence of the condemned man of 1894 in spite of the evidence accumulated and in spite of the millions of money expended."

Col. Jouaust then said: "Have you finished?"

Gen. Mercier replied: "Yes."

Col. Jouaust then announced that the sessions of the court martial would be resumed Monday morning.

M. Casimir-Perier thereupon rose and said: "After the deposition of Gen. Mercier, I shall ask the court to hear me, and I would prefer to be in confrontation with him."

This announcement caused a sensation. Then followed a thrilling demonstration against Gen. Mercier. As he turned to leave the court, the audience rose en masse and hissed and cursed him, those at the back of the court standing on benches and chairs in order to better hound him.

The gendarmes placed themselves between the general and the audience, which showed a strong disposition to maltreat the former minister of war.

Gen. Mercier hurried out of the court room through a side door. On emerging into the street the crowd outside cheered the general and cried "Vive l'armee."

"Ah," cried a spectator of the scene in court, "if they had heard the human monster speak they would not cheer him now."

One newspaper man in court was arrested for calling Gen. Mercier, as he passed by him, a murderer. But later on the man was released.

Dreyfus was hurried out by gendarmes who immediately cleared the courtroom.

Dreyfus' Lawyer Assassinated.
Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 14.—An Associated Press dispatch conveys the startling intelligence that M. Labori, principal counsel for the defence of Captain Dreyfus, was shot and mortally wounded, last Sunday morning, as he was on his way to the Lycee, where the retrial of Dreyfus was to be called a few minutes later.

Labori left his house for the court at about 6 o'clock this morning. His residence is situated in the suburbs about a quarter of an hour's walk from the Lycee, the route being along a military road beside the river Villaine. He reached a point by the way on his journey when two men, evidently lying in wait, rushed out of a narrow lane.

One of them fired a single shot from a revolver. The murderers were only a couple of yards behind the victim and the bullet struck Labori in the back. The wounded man uttered an agonized cry and fell on his face. The murderers immediately fled through the lane from which they emerged and both escaped. It was announced that the bullet had entered his stomach. There was no outward bleeding. The physicians believe Labori will die.

Laughing Himself to Death.

Chicago, August 8.—An interesting clinic will be held at the county hospital to-day, when the most up-to-date fruits of scientific research will be brought to bear by the physicians at the institution in an endeavor to discover whether Julius Mattas of 513 West Eighteenth street pored too deeply into the pages of some joke book, or whether it is because of something which he swallowed that he is unable to cease laughing.

Mattas is a laborer. Last evening he surprised members of his family by bursting forth in peals of laughter. His mirth appeared to be unceasing, and after an unremitting spell of half an hour Mrs. Mattas became alarmed and sent for neighbors. Still Mattas laughed.

The situation began to look grave in the eyes of his anxious friends, but still Mattas laughed. The police were called, and Mattas still laughed boisterously and was assisted into the wagon. At the hospital a stern-faced physician looked gravely at the patient and said he thought it must be a case of poisoning, but still Mattas laughed.

At an early hour this morning Mattas was unconscious, but still laughing, and those who attended him were non-plussed.

Burns Pierce rode a bike 100 miles in 3:24:1-5, at Manhattan Beach. This is the best record in the world.

MORE SOLDIERS NEEDED.

Enlistments for the Philippines Coming in Slow.

General Miles Is Restored to Official Favor and Will Be Commanding General in Fact.

Washington, Aug. 12.—Secretary Root is generally credited with being very desirous of raising the entire provisional army in order that there may be additional troops ready to send to the Philippines in case they are needed.

His idea is that it is better to be too well, than too poorly, prepared, and, also, that in case of necessity, it would be a hard thing to obtain from congress additional troops when the provisional army already authorized had not been placed in the field. It is now clearly realized at the department that, however easy it may be to raise volunteer troops with their own officers, taking them as full battalions or regiments from the militia of the states, it is not so easy to recruit ten new regiments. Adjt. Gen. Corbin confidently declared that these men would be enlisted by the 15th of July, but nearly a month more than that has elapsed, and still over a thousand men are needed. The number of the daily enlistments has fallen off rapidly during the last two or three weeks, and a calculation based upon the diminished rate shows that it would take several years to enlist the remaining 21,000 of the provisional army, which it has not yet been determined to place in the field.

Gen. Miles Will Not Go.
The report that Gen. Miles asked to be sent to the Philippines to take charge of the campaign this fall, although frequently repeated in certain journals of the East, is wholly without foundation. What the general has desired and what he will probably obtain through the administration of Elihu Root as secretary of war is the recognition of his position as commanding general of the army with headquarters at Washington. As all the world knows, Secretary Alger, after Gen. Miles' return from Porto Rico, utterly ignored the general, and whenever he wanted any information sought it from Adjt. Gen. Corbin. Since that time all orders relating to the movement of troops, the detail of officers, the granting of leaves of absence, assignments to special duty and the like, have been issued by the adjutant-general direct, without the knowledge and approval of the commanding general, who only ken of their issuance when served with the usual formal notice that is subsequently issued for general information to all chiefs of divisions and bureaus. The consequence of this anomalous condition was that the commanding general was

practically ignored and converted into a mere figurehead, the adjutant general became de facto the head of the army, and was called into consultation by the president and secretary when military affairs and army movements were to be considered.

One of the first official acts of Secretary Root was to call upon Gen. Miles in the latter's office, taking with him Adjt. Gen. Corbin. The three remained together for a long time conferring upon the methods of administration and the relations of the commanding general to the business of the department. It is now well understood that hereafter all business relating to the management of the army will be restored to the "regular channels," which means that the commanding general will see and pass upon all matters pertaining to the service before they are submitted to the secretary and the president, and all orders will be issued through the office of that official.

TOLD IN BRIEF.

It is rumored that the Czar of Russia contemplates abdicating.

The Cleveland (O.) street car employees have lost their strike.

Andrew Carnegie has given £10,000 to found a public library at Keighley, Yorkshire.

James Doyle, a millionaire mine owner of Colorado, is in jail because he will not pay a \$700,000 judgment against him.

An American army officer declares that it will take 100,000 soldiers to whip the Filipinos, who are as full of fight as ever.

The Denver smelters are closed again because the men would not accept the advance rate of wages offered by the company.

It is said the United States has purchased islands from Chile near the south end of South America for coaling stations.

Ben Thompson, colored, 24 years of age, was lynched at Alexandria, Va., August 8, for attempting an assault on Lillian Clark, the eight-year-old daughter of Edward Clark.

Illinois claims the quick marriage record, because a man and woman were married within two hours of their first meeting. In Oregon a man married a woman before her father could load his shotgun.

Mrs. George Hackett, colored, gave birth to seven-lets at Brownville, Pa., last week. All but one boy died before noon, mainly owing to the extreme heat in the little room where they were born. The seventh is alive and lusty.

A horrifying incident occurred thirty miles east of Moscow, Idaho, on Aug. 8. The eighteen-months-old daughter of Mr. M. B. Thornburg was literally roasted alive in a wagon bed of burning straw. Children playing with matches set fire to the straw.

Another Battle in Philippines.

Manila, August 9.—General MacArthur's forces, consisting of 4000 men, advanced five miles beyond San Fernando to-day and encountered and defeated a Filipino force of 6000 men. The enemy retreated, leaving many dead and wounded. The American loss in killed and wounded was twenty.

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