

LIKE A HUNTED ANIMAL.

Dreyfus Proclaims His Innocence Before the Court.

Public Trial of the Unfortunate Officer Commenced—Principal Allegations Declared to Be Falsehoods.

Rennes, France, Aug. 7.—Shortly after the witnesses and spectators had gathered for the first day of the rehearing of the Dreyfus case today, the officer commanding a row of soldiers at the back of the court, gave the command "carry arms," "present arms." There was a rattle of arms and a moment later Col. Jouaust, followed by other members of the court, walked on the stage from behind and took seats at the table. A deep silence fell upon the audience. Immediately after Jouaust was seated he gave the order to bring in the prisoner. Almost everybody but the more prominent officers stood on their feet. Some mounted benches to obtain a better view. There were subdued cries of "sit down," amid which the door opened and Capt. Dreyfus, preceded and followed by gendarmes, emerged into the court room. His features were deathly pale, and his teeth were set with determined but not defiant bearing. He walked quietly, with almost elastic step, and ascended the three steps leading to the platform in front of the judges. There he drew himself up erect, brought his right hand sharply to the peak of his military cap, giving his military salute, showing that his years of incarceration on Devil's island and the terrible anguish of body and mind had not impaired his military instinct and bearing.

The prisoner then removed his kepi and took the seat placed for him, facing his judges, just in front of his counsel's table and with his back to the audience. Behind him sat a gendarme holding a sheathed saber in his hand.

Dreyfus in the uniform of a captain of artillery, fixedly regarded his judges with immovable features, and without stirring hand or foot, scarcely even moving his head during the whole proceedings. On the court proceeding to the roll call of witnesses, the most notable absentees being Esterhazy, Du Paty de Clam and Mlle. Paas, Dreyfus half turned his head toward the seats of the witnesses, especially when the clerk of the court called Esterhazy. But when no response was received, Dreyfus returned to his previous attitude, looking straight in front of him at Colonel Jouaust. Altogether about 100 witnesses will be called on both sides.

After the court had decided not to adjourn on account of the absence of certain witnesses, the clerk of the court was ordered to read M. de Ormes Chevillie's bill of indictment of 1894, which he did in a loud voice, Dreyfus meanwhile listening unmoved as the old charges against him were read.

Jouaust then handed the prisoner a long slip of cardboard upon which the bordereaux was pasted.

"Do you recognize this document?" he asked.

"No, my colonel, I am innocent. I declare it here as I declared it in 1894. I am a victim."

Here his voice was choked with sobs which must have stirred every spectator in the court.

The voice of the speaker did not seem human. It resembled the cry of a wounded animal. He ended his reply with the words: "Five years in the galleys—my wife, my children—my God, I am innocent, innocent."

Jouaust then read the bordereaux and afterward asked:

"In 1890 you were at Borges?" Dreyfus—Yes, my colonel.

Jouaust—The 120 break was then made and you were in a position to know the construction of the break?"

Dreyfus—I knew the principle of it.

Jouaust—Had you any information respecting its workings?

Dreyfus—No, I did not know the details, never having worked it.

"Have you talked on gun 120 and its breaks?"

Dreyfus who then had regained his composure, spoke distinctly and in a way which carried conviction with it answered the last question. He said:

"No, I never had any knowledge of this gun while I was in the bureau of the general staff."

"At the military school you were reproached for saying that the Alsations were happier as Germans than as Frenchmen?"

"No, I never uttered such words."

"How do you account for the bad note against you written by a certain general?"

"He said he wanted no Jews on the general staff."

He denied the charge of holding immoral intercourse with a certain woman and of having lost money in gaming at the home of another; denied that he was in Brussels in 1894, as had been charged, said he did not know Du Paty de Clam, Major Henry, Col. Picquart and Col. Esterhazy, his principal accusers; he denied having made many utterances attributed to him and explained the meaning of others.

Where Jouaust spoke of Dreyfus' interview with and alleged confession to De Clam, the most dramatic scene of the examination occurred. Dreyfus tremendously excited, swayed to and fro for a moment, and then all his pent-up emotion and indignation burst forth, and in a piping voice heard throughout the court room, and even by those standing on the outside, he said:

"It is iniquitous to condemn an innocent man. I never confessed anything, never."

Dreyfus, as he uttered the words raised his right white gloved hand, and held it aloft, as if appealing to heaven to vindicate him.

The reading of the secret dossier will be taken up to-morrow, and there will be no more public sittings until Saturday.

Everything is quiet at Rennes and the trial has caused no excitement.

Alger's Neighbors Stand by Him.

Detroit, Aug. 3.—Whatever has been the personal feeling of the late secretary of war, General Russell A. Alger, concerning the recent incident of his official career, all sentiments save those of general happiness were evidently banished this afternoon and evening by the magnificent welcome tendered him by the people of his own city and state. From 4 o'clock, when the welcoming committee crowded into his private car upon its arrival at Toledo, until 9 o'clock, when the general ceased grasping outstretched hands, the scene was a constant and spontaneous ovation. Smiles and tears repeatedly struggled for the mastery over the secretary's bronzed countenance, as he gazed into the eager faces of the multitude who loudly and convincingly insisted that "Alger's all right," and no dissenting voice was heard. Darkness fell during the speeches from the reviewing stand in front of the city hall, giving opportunity for throwing a searchlight upon the features of the general, drawn in crayon on a canvass 15 feet square, hung from the city hall and surrounded by patriotic decorations. A great crush at the indoor reception was the final feature.

Novel Form of Arbitration.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The governments of the United States and Hayti have agreed to submit to arbitration the claims of an American citizen for alleged indignities and loss suffered by him in Hayti. The arbitration will be a novel one in one respect, as Hayti trusts all her interests to an arbitrator chosen from the United States, who in this case is to be Judge Day, late secretary of state.

The predicted revolution in Santo Domingo is on and the powers expect the United States to interfere. The Haytiens are also in a state of ferment, and Minister Powell has asked that a warship be sent there to insure the safety of the legation and consulates.

VALDES SHORN OF DANGER.

Government Trail Built Around the Famous Death Trap.

Indigent Miners Provided With Work by Government Officers—Reports of Gold Finds Being Circulated.

Seattle, Aug. 3.—News was brought down by passengers on the Orizaba last night that the new government trail from Valdes to Copper river has been completed, and the necessity no longer exists for miners to cross the old and dangerous trail across the Valdes glacier. C. F. Perolat brought out the news, having left Cook Inlet about three weeks ago. A good many sick and impoverished prospectors have been brought out to Juneau from the Copper river section. The government is giving a good deal of work to the miners who are hard up, paying them \$50 a month, with board, until money enough has been earned to buy a second-class ticket home. In the first part of last month four bodies were washed out into the bay from the mouth of the Copper river. They were the remains of prospectors who had lost their lives while boating up the river or crossing the dangerous stream. In June last a man and woman who hailed from Denver were drowned in the Kayka while boating. The body of the woman was recovered later and \$700 in gold taken from the clothing. The man's body was not found. His name was Tuagby.

Quite a number of the passengers of the Orizaba came from the Copper river country. Varying stories of the richness of the country are told. W. H. Egerton of West Virginia spent the winter here and brings out some good looking gold dust. There are three streams, he says which produce gold, Slate Falls and Quartz creeks. On the latter, men washed out \$7 a day from the surface down. It was early in June before any work could be done after the break-up, owing to the high water. The men owning claims on the creeks were well pleased over the prospects as far as they had gone when Egerton left the diggings. He has come down after pack horses and intends going back shortly. As the country is developed Egerton says it will become a gold producer of considerable importance.

Captain Abercrombie, who with a detachment of soldiers is driving a trail up the Copper river to the Tanana country, will have opened about 100 miles by the time the season closes.

Klondiker in Luck.

Seattle, Aug. 5.—Peter G. McDonald, a returned Klondiker who is staying at the Hotel Northern, was made \$100 richer yesterday through the honesty of a chambermaid. When McDonald and his two partners came down from the Klondike they had a large amount of gold with them. For convenience in carrying it, McDonald had a portion of his changed into paper, a part of which consisted of large bills. When getting up yesterday morning, a \$100 bill slipped from his pocket to the floor.

McDonald, not noticing his loss, went out on the street, and not until his return yesterday afternoon, when he was handed the bill at the office, with the explanation that the chambermaid had picked it up in his room, did he know it was gone.

Tailors Have Won.

New York, Aug. 3.—The tailors have won their strike, practically all the contractors having signed agreements for the oncoming season. These contractors allow operators \$18, basters \$15 and finishers \$10 a week. Ten hours is to constitute a day's work.

"Cow" Miller's Investments.

Kansas City, Aug. 3.—W. J. Miller, is in Kansas City buying a trainload of live stock to be shipped by way of Seattle to Dawson, there to be slaughtered for the Klondike trade. When the day closed he had bought eight car loads of hogs.

OUTSIDE NEWS IN BRIEF.

The employes of the New York Sun went on a strike August 5.

Union labor men formed a new political party at New York on August 7.

The Nebraska corn crop for the season is estimated at 300,000,000 bushels.

Admiral Dewey reached Naples Aug. 5, and settled down for a ten days' visit.

A collision of boats near Bar Harbor, Me., August 7, resulted in the loss of 20 lives.

A collision between trains on the Orleans railroad near Juvisy, France, August 5, resulted in the death of 17 and the injuring of 37.

The proposed mill between Denver Ed Smith and Tom Costello was not pulled off at Tacoma on August 5, owing to the slim attendance.

Pontiac, Mich., people tore up a street car track because the company enjoined the city from paving the street and refused to pave their track.

A mysterious disease has broken out among Milwaukee tanners handling hides brought from India. There are fears that it may be the bubonic plague. The state board of health is investigating.

Plans are maturing to construct a tunnel under the Irish sea connecting the Emerald Isle with Scotland. It will be 35 miles long and cost \$50,000,000.

The Seattle P.-I. ran an excursion party of business men to Alaska last week. A special train was also chartered to take them from Skagway to Bennett.

A motor car left the track by reason of a broken rail and fell off a trestle near Bridgeport, Conn., on August 6, and 29 lives were lost. The motorman was arrested on a charge of manslaughter.

The force of regulars at work on the new barracks at Victoria is shortly to be increased to 320 officers and men and barracks, to accommodate the increased strength, will be erected at a cost of \$125,000. The imperial and Dominion governments will divide expense.

The American and German commissioners to Samoa have returned and report that all the tribes have agreed to the new form of government for the islands. There will be a native council or legislature, but the governor will have the veto power, and the chief justice will be the final authority in the land; from whom there will be no appeal. This agreement met the approval of the Samoans, and everything is now tranquil.

One Feud Ended.

Barboursville, Ky., Aug. 7.—The jury in the case against James Baker for the murder of Wilson Howard returned a verdict of not guilty on the first ballot.

There was a general handshaking when the verdict was announced. The Bakers will not return to Clay county and they say the feud is over on their part.

Joe Martin's Successor.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 7.—Alex Henderson, Q. C., of New Westminster, was today sworn in as attorney general of British Columbia, to succeed Joseph Martin. He will have to stand for reelection.

O'Brien's Railroad.

Confirmation of the report that Tom O'Brien has secured a franchise for a narrow-gauge railroad from Klondike City to Grand Forks has been received from Tom himself. The road will cost, with equipments, about \$200,000, and it will be built as soon as possible.

The need of a public highway up Bonanza gulch is now made imperative, as the railroad will make travel by the old creek trail impossible.

More Building Operations.

Alex McDonald has commenced the construction of a combined hotel and store building at the corner of Second avenue and Second street. It is to be 30x85 feet in the main, with a wing 30x30 feet on the west side, and three stories high. The first floor will be made into five storerooms, and the upper stories will include the hotel and office rooms.

Messrs. J. W. Little and Charles F. Nelson are building a substantial log store building on Third avenue, near Third street. It will be 20x40 feet in dimensions.

Information Wanted.

The Nugget is in receipt of a letter from Joseph Roy of Peck, Sedgwick county, Kansas, asking for information concerning one Jas. G. Duncan, who was last heard of in Eagle City. A letter is inclosed to Duncan, which the Nugget will forward upon receipt of address.