

Five Years of My Life

knew what had already passed after the court-martial of 1894, and founded, therefore, no hope on such an appeal. My aim was to again go before the Court of Cassation, and give it the opportunity of completing the work of justice it had begun. But at that time I had no means to accomplish this, for, in military jurisprudence, in order to appear before the Court of Cassation, it is necessary, according to the terms of the law of 1895, to bring forward a new fact, or else the proof that false evidence has been given.

My demand for revision before the military courts thus permitted me merely to gain time.

I had signed my demand for a revision on September 9. On September 12, at six o'clock in the morning, my brother Mathieu was in my cell, authorised by General de Galliffet, Minister of War, to see me without witnesses. A pardon was offered me, but in order that it might be signed it was necessary that I should withdraw my demand for