

Ashville Daily Gazette.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 27, 1899.

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* Cold Cream and offer it in porce- *
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RASCALLY OFFICERS

Maurel and Mercier's Shame Exposed in Court.

An Unexpectedly Sensational Day in the Dreyfus Trial.

Major Freystaeter Exposes Some Perjured Testimony.

Maurel Hissed as Cornered He Attempts Equivocation—Demange's Comment.

Rennes, Aug. 26.—Today, which was expected to be the dullist, proved the most important in the Dreyfus trial. No reason apparently existed for the interpolating of the greatest scene yet witnessed between the testimony of two dreary experts, unless it was the French horror of monotony and love of dramatic effect. Every one realized the moment that Captain Freystaeter, that gallant officer sitting on the court martial in 1894, whose conscience impelled him 2 years ago to disclose the fact that Dreyfus was condemned by secret illegitimate evidence, took the stand that the crucial moment of the case was at hand. It was not expected that he would be able to do more than pit his word against that of Colonel Maurel, president of the '94 court martial, and contradict one or two points of Mercier's evidence. His splendid physique, calm, dignified and solemnly bearing made additionally impressive his plain, dire and convincing words. It was the incarnate truth of the man which overwhelmed and confounded the two men who were compelled to confront him. Colonel Maurel, one of the bitterest enemies of Dreyfus, was compelled to admit when faced with Freystaeter that he was guilty of the lowest form of prevarication in his testimony two days ago. Moreover, when direct perjury was forced home he weakly pleaded loss of memory, refused to testify and left the stand disgraced and despised as a dishonest man.

Mercier himself had a narrow escape from a similar position. He is cleverer than Maurel and began to reply to the questions by characterizing certain of Freystaeter's statements as lies. There is an important distinction in the French estimation between this expression and calling a man a liar, otherwise Sunday's monotony might have the welcome relief of a duel. But Mercier was obliged even to make an important correction in his previous testimony and took refuge against denial in the living but absent du Paty de Clam. It was a strange situation that confronted one at the end of the third week of the operation of French military justice.

M. Demange makes an interesting comment on the day's developments. He considers the refutation of Maurel and Mercier to have little effect with the judges, who are determined to judge everything de nouveau. He believes they were deeply impressed by the testimony of Bertillon and are now still more impressed by the refutation of Bertillon's system by the present witness, Baral Javal. It is expected that Gen Freycinet and General Roguet will confront each other Monday when the famous 35,000,000 francs of a foreign syndicate for Dreyfus' rescue will be exploited.

THE COURT MARTIAL

Rennes, Aug. 26.—When the court martial began this morning M. Alphonse Bertillon, chief of the anthropometric department of the Paris prefecture of police, resumed his testimony interrupted yesterday by adjournment of the court. He gave his reasons for believing Dreyfus to be the author of the bordereau. The comic aspect of Bertillon's performance appealed to the risibilities of the audience, though the judges paid close attention to the

demonstrations. The witness said in conclusion: "I am convinced the writer of the bordereau is the prisoner sitting here."

There was a highly dramatic scene toward the end of the session. Labori asked to have Major Freystaeter, one of the members of the court martial of 1894, called in contradiction of the deposition of Colonel Maurel, presiding judge upon that occasion, who testified the secret dossier, communicated to the court martial.

The witness was questioned whether one or more of the documents were read and he said they were all read. This was an indirect contradiction of Colonel Maurel and Labori at once demanded the confrontation of Major Freystaeter with Colonel Maurel. The latter mounted the stand and presented a miserable object, his shifty eyes gleaming out beneath heavy eyebrows and looking around with vicious hanging-dog look.

"How do you explain this?" asked Labori. Then the colonel at bay, replied savagely: "I said I read only one document. I did not say only one document was read." This statement called forth an outburst of hisses and indignation "Oh's" from the audience, which looked upon it as an infamous confession. The witness, trembling with shame, threw a nervous look toward Labori and the audience as the gendarmes shouted "Silence, silence."

After this the audience listened spellbound as Major Freystaeter, in a distinct voice, told exactly what documents of the dossier were read and how Colonel Maurel not only read these documents but made comment on them. This was practically calling Maurel a thorough liar, and the colonel glared at the major ferociously.

General Mercier asked to be heard and placed himself by the side of Maurel. The sensation today was when the question of veracity occurred between Captain Freystaeter and General Mercier. Mercier testified Thursday that the secret documents sent by him to the court martial in 1894 comprised only four documents which were mentioned. Today Freystaeter declared that the dossier included a false translation of Panizzardi's telegram. Freystaeter said he read the document in the secret session of the court and quoted its phraseology. Mercier declared the witness lied.

POLITICAL SITUATION ACUTE.

Chicago, Aug. 26.—A special to the Chicago Tribune from Paris says: The political situation is growing grave. One hundred and five deputies have signed the petition asking that parliament be assembled in extra session. The law provides that if a majority of the members make this demand the government must call the chamber together. There are 500 members, and if 150 more members ask for an extra session of parliament France may see the end of the Dreyfus case taken up with wild debates in the chamber of deputies, the ministry overturned, and then a repetition of the scenes of last May, when it was almost impossible to form a cabinet.

All of the churches in Paris are guarded by troops. Jules Guerin is still holding out in his fortress. He has soaked the roof and walls with petroleum, and insists in his threats to destroy himself and his companions in the ruins if he is seriously attacked.

GUERIN'S BLACK FLAG

Paris, Aug. 26.—There was considerable excitement in the rue de Chabrol this afternoon. The crowds were not permitted to approach the house in which Guerin is besieged. The police deny that any deaths have occurred in the house. The black flag hung out by Guerin was a token of mourning by the anti-Semite and his companions over the "downfall of France."

DELAGEL SURRENDERS TO TROOPS AT DARIEN

The "Race Conflict" Went Thus Far Last Night.

Darien, Aug. 26.—The round-up of negroes in McIntosh county today resulted in the surrender of John Delagel, the slayer of Deputy Sheriff Townsend. He surrendered to the lieutenant in charge of the Thirtieth Savannah regiment as he saw the sheriff's posse closing in on him.

MCKINLEY GOES TO PITTSBURG.

Long Branch, N. J., Aug. 26.—President and Mrs. McKinley left here today by a special train of the Pennsylvania railroad for Pittsburg. Gen Merritt will join the president at Pittsburg. Visits will be paid to East Liverpool and Canton, Ohio.

THE TRANSVAAL CRISIS NEAR

Chamberlain Declares Issue of Peace or War is in Kruger's Hands.

London, Aug. 26.—Joseph Chamberlain secretary for colonies, in a speech at Huxbury this evening, said he wished he could say the difficulty between England and the Transvaal was settled. He declared the issue of peace or war was in Kruger's hands.

The situation, he said, was fraught with danger too strained for indefinite postponement. If a rupture was forced he felt confident of the support of the vast majority of the English people.

London, Aug. 26.—Much indignation is felt at the Cape among the royalists owing to the large quantity of ammunition going into the Transvaal by way of the Orange Free State, with the permission of the Cape government.

According to the Daily Mail's correspondent 2,000,000 cartridges and 500 rifles have been sent to Bloemfontein in the last few weeks.

Eight hundred and forty troops with thirty officers, left Southampton yesterday for the Cape. Large stores of war material will be sent to Natal today.

Altogether the pressure upon the Transvaal is getting strenuous. From Johannesburg comes the news that the imperial government has notified the Transvaal that colored British subjects must be exempt from the law removing the colored population to a location outside the town.

GERMAN VIEW OF THE CRISIS. Berlin, Aug. 26.—The Berlin press is following the Transvaal crisis closely. Many papers think war is not to be long delayed. The Anglophobe Tages Zeitung says:

"England is determined to subjugate the Boers unless they voluntarily abandon their independence. England cannot retreat without loss of prestige and risking possessions of South Africa. It is highly improbable that the Cape Colony Boers will remain loyal."

"If England sustains the slightest reverse the war may possibly be fatal to the British empire. The main question may become whether South Africa is to continue a British colony or again become Dutch."

"Unless England gains a decisive victory Russia is likely to make a forward movement in China, Persia, Afghanistan and perhaps India itself."

LAKE STEAMER ON FIRE

Painesville, O., Aug. 27, 1 A. M.—A steamer, which is believed to be the City of Erie, which left here for Buffalo with a thousand passengers aboard, was seen adrift and on fire to night off Fairport. Tugs have been sent to her.

MALITIA STILL ON GUARD AT WAYNESVILLE JAIL

There was no Expectation of Serious Trouble Last Night.

Waynesville, Aug. 26.—Company H, fifty strong, is still guarding the jail tonight. No serious trouble is anticipated. Burt Smith, the prisoner, against whom the threats of lynching have been made, is a white man.

CONSUL SERVICE IN CHINA TO BE OVERHAULED

Charges Against Bedloe Foundation for a General Investigation.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Investigation of the charges against Bedloe, the United States consul at Canton, will be the foundation of a general investigation of the consular service of China. Charges involving other consular officers besides Bedloe are on file at the state department and the fullest investigation will be made.

If one half of the allegations are true there certainly will be several dismissals. Some of the charges are sensational, involving the honesty of the consuls and their subordinates.

Consul Wildman, at Hong Kong, has filed charges against Bedloe which, if sustained, will compel his removal. Bedloe has filed counter charges against Wildman, and it is said allegations or irregular conduct have been made by the wholesale by these two men and some of their colleagues. It is impossible to learn the nature of the charges.

CUBAN FREEDOM

Steps Toward Establishing Independent Government.

A Significant Proclamation Signed by President McKinley.

Elections to Follow Completion of Census of the Island.

The American Troops Will be Withdrawn as Fast as the Government is Perfected.

Washington, Aug. 26.—President McKinley today signed a proclamation which will be promulgated in Cuba shortly stating that the census ordered for Cuba lately is the beginning of a movement looking toward the establishment of an independent government.

The proclamation says when the census is completed arrangements will be made for holding elections throughout the island with a view to establishing civil government there, by affording Cubans the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to conduct their own affairs.

As fast as the government is perfected troops will be withdrawn. The object of the proclamation is to contradict stories circulated that the Americans do not intend to accord independence to the Cubans.

THE WORK OF THE CENSUS. Havana, Aug. 26.—The Cuban inspectors of census arrived today from Washington and gave interviews to the Havana papers about their treatment regarding the plans of the Americans for the betterment of Cuba. Their views are most optimistic and have delighted the "independence" element in Cuban politics. They declare that in their interviews with President McKinley and Secretary Root they were treated with the utmost respect, Root assuring them that the census must be as exact as possible because it would form the basis of Cuban independence. The inspectors expect to finish their work by November 30.

Owing to several cases of yellow fever among the soldiers at Capanas it is probable the troops stationed there will be removed.

MADISON CRIMINAL COURT.

In Madison criminal court the trial of the case of S. V. Shelton, charged with the murder of his brother, Anderson Shelton, resulted in a verdict of not guilty. There was a mistrial in the case some time ago.

A verdict of acquittal was given in the case against Wilson Rice, charged with perjury. The prosecuting witness was a brother of the defendant.

Judge Stevens came home yesterday to spend Sunday.

THE HENDERSON GOLD MINES.

D. D. Suttle came in yesterday from Henderson county, where he is superintending the work of the Bell Hanson gold mines. Mr. Suttle says his men are going right into the mountain and that the work has progressed so far that one cannot see a lighted candle from the mouth of the tunnel. Several promising veins have been struck in places where they were least expected. Some of the ore has been shipped north already.

When you buy a refrigerator, remember the "odorless" For sale by Mrs. L. A. Johnson, 27 N. Main street.

It cures all headaches, Baldwin's headache Cure, 25c. Grant's Pharmacy.

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SNIDER'S

On the Square.

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