

The Smithfield Herald.

"TRUE TO OURSELVES, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOD."

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THE DREYFUS CASE.

An interesting Review of this World Famous Case.

The Dreyfus case now absorbs the attention of the civilized world almost to the exclusion of other important matters. The English are said to be more interested in it than in their own war in South Africa, which is annoying to Mr. Chamberlain. Here in America the newspapers devote more columns to the reports of the trial than to any other matter. We were not surprised, therefore, to receive the following communication from a valued friend:

"Hundreds of your readers, I am quite sure, would thank you if you would give one column of the Republican to a concise statement of the origin, cause and issue, so far, of the Dreyfus case. We have enough of the matter in all conscience as it goes, but time and events and other interests put out of recollection things and persons that we need to keep in mind if we would have an intelligent comprehension of what is doing and done. We don't keep newspaper files."

The case dates back to October 15, 1894, when Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, a French Jew of Alsace parentage and birth, was arrested on the charge of high treason. Capt. Dreyfus had been on service in the French war office as a subordinate member of the general staff. He was an artilleryman. About the middle of December, 1894, he was tried by court martial sitting in secret, was condemned and sentenced to deportation and life imprisonment. On January 6, 1895, Captain Dreyfus was publicly degraded and sent to Devil's Island in the tropics, off the coast of French Guiana, South America for confinement. There he remained, confined in chains some of the time, and frequently treated with great harshness by his jailers, until this summer, when, by order of the French Government, he was taken back to France for a new trial. That trial is now in progress at Rennes.

The chain of causes and events that compelled this second trial form the bulk of the story. The Dreyfus family was rich and Mrs. Dreyfus loved her husband. All of his friends believed in his innocence. Their unceasing labors and unstinted expenditure of money soon began to have an effect in interesting the public in what they denounced as a miscarriage of justice. Then facts were published and revelations made which convinced fearless and independent Frenchmen, as well as most foreign observers, that, at least, Dreyfus had not had a fair trial. The demand for "revision" became irresistible.

The great weakness of the trial in 1894 was its secrecy and the undeniable fact that much of the evidence upon which Dreyfus was convicted was not presented either to him or his counsel. That was a denial of the fundamental principle that an accused man shall be allowed to defend himself. The charge against Capt. Dreyfus was that he had sold or given to the military attaché of a certain European power information in documents, concerning French military secrets, as follows:

1. A note on the hydraulic brake 120, with the way of manipulating it.
2. A note on the modification introduced into the troops of cover ("troupes de couverture").
3. A note on artillery formation.
4. A note relative to Madagascar.
5. A manual on field pieces.

To prove this charge the prosecution produced a sheet of paper (now historic as the bordereau), its parts pasted together, upon which was a written, unsigned memorandum. It began with the announcement that the writer had the information, noted above, to communicate. Then followed an offer to lend the documents for extracts or to send a copy of each "in extenso."

This bordereau was said to have been picked out of the wastebasket at the German embassy in Paris by a French spy. And the prosecution claimed that the writing of the bordereau was the writing of Capt. Dreyfus. The bordereau in 1894 was submitted to five experts in pen-

manship, three of whom judged that Dreyfus had written it, while two believed that he had not. This division of opinion weakened the prosecution's case. General Mercier, Minister of War at that time, submitted the so-called "secret dossier," or envelope, of other alleged evidences of Dreyfus's guilt. The secret dossier was not shown to Dreyfus or his counsel, and upon it, together with General Mercier's own emphatic protestation that the accused was guilty, Dreyfus was condemned. It was for long the claim of the war office that the secret dossier could not be exposed lest its secrets should endanger the foreign relations of France.

Time passed. Dreyfus's friends submitted the bordereau in facsimile, and some of the captain's real handwriting, to 12 eminent experts in penmanship, selected from different nations, and not one of them came to the conclusion that Dreyfus had written it. It may be added at this point that of the three French experts who, in 1894, decided that Dreyfus wrote the bordereau, only two, upon the re-examination ordered by the French Court of Cassation this year, adhered to their original conclusion, which left the original French commission 3 to 2 in favor of Dreyfus on this point. Anticipating still further, it may here be said that the Court of Cassation this year decided that Dreyfus did not write the bordereau.

The real turn in the campaign for revision came when Colonel Picquart of the French general staff came into possession of the famous secret dossier and examined its contents. On the strength of that dossier he had hitherto supposed that Dreyfus was convicted on good evidence. He testifies that he was stupefied to find nothing in the dossier which could have warranted condemnation; that there was no evidence in it which would not apply with equal strength to other men, one in particular—Esterhazy. Colonel Picquart made known his opinion to his superiors, and they bundled him off to Tunis, but not before he had blurted out the truth, honest man fashion, to the world. One of the most important things in the secret dossier, and the one upon which General Mercier had most relied upon before the first court-martial, was a certain intercepted message from a foreign military attaché, which Mercier declared referred to Dreyfus. It turned out, however, that the message referred to "that dog of a D—" Now, the letter "D" begins the name of Dreyfus, but it also begins the name of a great many other people. The message, therefore, was no proof at all that Dreyfus was in secret communication with the foreign military attaché. Then came the thrilling "I accuse," by Zola, and his charge that Esterhazy was the real traitor; Zola's trial for libel, and the farcical trial of Esterhazy.

The final stroke, which compelled the French Government to turn toward revision, was the suicide last year of Lieutenant Colonel Henry of the secret service department of the war office. He had confessed to forging certain documents which the anti-revisionists had much relied upon in fastening guilt upon Dreyfus. These forgeries threw such suspicion upon the whole case against Dreyfus that the government, despite the opposition of the army, remanded the case to the Court of Cassation, the highest civic tribunal in France. This court decided in favor of revision on the ground that the evidence at the first trial was incomplete, and that the accused had not been fairly treated. The court, moreover, threw out entirely the question whether Dreyfus wrote the bordereau, and declared that the simple question to be decided by the second court-martial was whether Dreyfus did really communicate to a foreign power the documents mentioned in the bordereau. That is the only issue properly before the present court-martial at Rennes, although no one, not even on the case, could be expected to know it from reading the immense amount of irrelevant gossip and opinion which the military judges permit the witnesses to offer.

If we can trust the press reports of the Rennes trial, the prosecution has not offered any testimony proving that Dreyfus

sent to a foreign power the documents mentioned in the bordereau. General after general has gone on the stand and declared his opinion, for instance, that Dreyfus wrote the bordereau, yet what do their opinions amount to beside the majority opinion of handwriting experts and the decision of the Court of Cassation? They also repeat their conviction that Dreyfus is guilty because he confessed privately to his jailer in Paris in 1894. But Col. Sandherr, then chief of the intelligence department, is on record in a letter stating that the jailer's story of the alleged confession cannot be depended upon. The generals also say that certain letters and dispatches by foreign military attaches prove that Dreyfus is guilty, yet whenever they produce any such evidence the said attaches have invariably declared it to be a forgery. Thus General Mercier has produced an alleged report made by Colonel Schneider, the Austrian attaché, to his government, in which Dreyfus was incriminated. Colonel Schneider at once branded it as a forgery. So, too, the Italian attaché, Colonel Panizzardi, branded as a forgery an alleged report incriminating Dreyfus which General Roget said the Italian attaché had sent to Rome. We have looked carefully for fresh evidence against Dreyfus from day to day and have failed to find any worthy of the name. Did Dreyfus send those documents? The prosecution evidently has no direct evidence on the point. That the documents were actually sent by some one and are now in the possession of the German Government, is well understood, we believe, yet the assumption that Dreyfus sent them has not been proved thus far.

So far as he is concerned, the prosecution evidently demands his condemnation on the same ground that an American mob once lynched a subject—"on general principles."

Most outsiders, as well as Dreyfus's friends, believe that Esterhazy wrote the bordereau and sent the documents in question. Esterhazy, although a great liar, claims from his retreat in England that he did it. It seems certain that the bordereau is in Esterhazy's hand-writing, if in any one's. Dreyfus was rich and had no possible motive to betray his country. Esterhazy was a scamp, a libertine, and always "hard up" for money. We won't attempt to work out the case against Esterhazy, but mention him to show that there exists a reasonable alternative to believing Dreyfus guilty.

The most reasonable theory of the real origin of the treason that has come to our notice is as follows: All great governments, as is well known, maintain a spy system in the capitals of other powers to obtain secret military information. It is undoubtedly true that the various military attaches of European governments stationed in Paris regularly buy information about France's army from "leaks" in the war office. It is known that this betrayal has gone on since Dreyfus was imprisoned. It is for the most part a petty traffic, dealing in unessential matters. Now, French army officers receive very small salaries. General de Bois, for instance, when at the head of the general staff, received but \$5,000 a year. Lieutenant Colonel Henry, the forger, received but \$1,000 a year as head of the intelligence department. The temptation of the poorly paid staff and bureau officers, living in Paris, to peddle secret information to the foreign attaches is very great. But Dreyfus had large private means and was under no such temptation. The theory is that this peddling of petty secrets for money had gone on for a long time and had involved high officers. Esterhazy was an agent and go-between of these men. The bordereau was written by him and sent to the German embassy in the regular transaction of business. There it was inadvertently found, torn in pieces, by a French spy and produced at the French war office. It had to be taken cognizance of. It was necessary to protect the real culprits. The ring therefore seized on Dreyfus, chiefly because he was a Jew, thus taking shrewd advantage of the immense anti-Semitic prejudice in France.

They conspired against him to save themselves. Since then the ring has played upon every national prejudice of the country, have claimed that the Dreyfus movement was an attack on the army, and that the pro-Dreyfus sentiment abroad was an attack on France, and that the Jews were trying to ruin the country. It has even stooped to forgery.

This theory of the causes of the affair may seem far-fetched. No foreigner can pretend to know the inside history of the case. Yet the Dreyfus affair is extraordinary, and such a theory, admitting that Dreyfus is really innocent, meets the requirements of the situation as well as any.

Queen Victoria's Crowns.

New York Home Journal.

Queen Victoria has three crowns, but it is seldom that she wears them. One is a tiara, made nearly forty years ago, and weighs about eight troy ounces. It is a light shell of gold, thickly encrusted with diamonds, there being no less than 2,773 white diamonds and 523 of the rose brilliants. This was designed for use with a long strip of tulle used as a veil by her majesty on state occasions, such as weddings and drawing rooms. The queen wears it well back on her head, and it forms a veil to fasten the ceremonial veil, which floats away from it to the hem of the train. The gold circlet was the successor to the circlet of gold which may be seen in the earlier pictures of the queen. The jewels in this are very beautiful, being choice diamonds matching perfectly in color. The general effect of the crown is shown in some of the coinage, although the veil was not worn until the later tiara was adopted. This diadem and another of similar shape that preceded it were used when her majesty opened and prorogued parliament. It was also worn during the ceremonies attending the wedding of the princess royal (now the Empress Frederick).

On every occasion on which the queen visited the house of lords the state crown was taken out of the regalia room in the tower of London and was borne before her majesty on a cushion. Except for this purpose the crown has left the tower but twice during her reign—once for repair, some of the setting having become loosened, and once in order to modify the ermine. The queen has never actually worn the State crown since it was placed on her head at coronation. This crown was made more than a century ago, and is kept in the custody of the tower. It includes 2,782 diamonds, 277 pearls, 16 sapphires, 11 emeralds and 4 rubies.

The Best Matchmaker.

Independent.

The isolation of the sexes for four or more years during the period when their affections are in bloom is the chief reason why so many bachelors of arts remain matrimonial factors. This is proved by the fact that this evil is much less in coeducational institutions than in colleges for a single sex. Only thirty-two out of the 234 graduates of the women's college, Bryn Mawr, up to and including the class of 1894, have married, or only 14 per cent. of the total number. Out of the 130 women graduates of the co-education University of Kansas, up to 1894, 65 have married, or exactly 50 per cent.

That propinquity is the best matchmaker is shown by the fact that of these 65 women graduates of Kansas University 31 married fellow students. It is also noticeable from the examinations of alumni catalogues that not only do the M's marry the N's, as according to the prayer-book they should, but also the S's marry the T's, and so on through the alphabet in those colleges where the students are seated alphabetically in the classroom. In short, if you wish them to marry, let them be together; if you don't want them to marry, keep them apart. A few years' isolation is sometimes sufficient to make a confirmed bachelor.

To eat with appetite, digest with comfort and sleep with tranquility, take a dose of Dr. M. A. Simmons Liver Medicine occasionally.

Rennes, France.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Rennes, scene of the Dreyfus trial, now an ordinary commercial town in western France, and unknown to most of the world until it became the temporary residence of the celebrated prisoner, dates from the very beginning of the Christian era, and possesses a history resplendent with mediaeval pageantry and tales of chivalric daring. It was the capital and chief city of Brittany in the days of its independence. Here the warrior dukes of Brittany assembled their parliament. Here Constance, duchess of Brittany, and queen, celebrated for her sorrows by Shakespeare, was married to Geoffrey Plantagenet. Here it was that her son, Arthur, afterward so cruelly murdered by his uncle, John of England, was crowned duke of Brittany.

It was at Rennes that Bertrand du Guesclin, famous constable of France and aptly called its clive, was born, and this was the land and this was the people whose independence against all others, victoriously against all others, he conquered. It is said they broke his heart, these sturdy, liberty loving people of Brittany. No Breton ever after spoke to him, and though he laid the foundation of the greatness of France by driving out the English and bringing the various principalities of France under the rule of the king, the Breton blood was too powerful in him for him to forget in the midst of his greatness his expatriation and the hatred his own people bore him.

In 1720 a terrible fire broke out in the middle of the town and raged six days. No effort was made to put it out by the disheartened citizens, and when its work was done nothing was left of its antique charm but a few buildings on the outskirts and the old Roman gate, which is now the only object of interest to the tourist in the present city. Today it is modern and commonplace. The buildings which replaced the old ones have for their chief merit spaciousness and cleanliness; of architectural beauty of design there is very little. The Palais de Justice or courthouse is one of the most interesting buildings in the city for its association. The Breton parliament used to assemble there.

Of churches Rennes has no lack. The cathedral, begun in 1180 and not completed until 1357, is a marvel of bad taste on the outside, being a mixture of tuscan, gothic, doric and ionic, and the interior a famous critic has likened to a stock exchange or corn market. Morlaix gate is the Mecca of artists who visit Rennes. It is a fine sample of Roman military architecture, and dates from the third century A. D. Through it all the dukes had to pass to be crowned, and here all new rules were met by the bishops and clergy, who exacted the promise that their rights should be maintained.

Sulu Accepts Our Rule.

Manila, August 25.—General

Bates has returned from Sulu and has successfully accomplished his mission there. After five weeks' negotiation with much tact, an agreement was signed which in substance was as follows:

American sovereignty over Moros shall be recognized and there shall be no persecution against religion; The United States shall occupy and control such parts of the archipelago as public interest may demand; any person can purchase land with the Sultan's consent; the introduction of fire arms shall be prohibited; piracy shall be suppressed; the American courts shall have jurisdiction except between the Moros; the Americans shall protect the Moros against foreign imposition and the Sultan's subsidy from Spain shall be continued.

The Sultan and several chiefs signed the agreement.

Volcanic Eruptions.

Are grand, but Skin Eruptions rob life of joy: Bucklen's Arnica Salve cures them, also Old, Running and Fever Sores, Ulcers, Boils, Felons, Corns, Warts, Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Chapped Hands, Chlirblains, Best Pile cure on earth. Drives out Pains and Aches. Only 25 cts. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by Hood Bros.' Druggist.

The Intrinsic Value of Silver.

Let us not think that because our nation is involved in war, that all other issues should find second place, for in our mind the free and unlimited coinage of silver is the greatest of the age.

We are in favor of silver being used as money, or in other words, bimetallism, not any more gold than silver standard. Then how can you monetize the value of the American silver dollar while the price of silver bullion remains so low? The remedies are several, but the one which is most easily obtained is the basis of our discussion, viz: Favorable legislation. When silver was removed from use look what a premium was on its bullion. Now look at it. It is worth just one half what it used to be. When silver was demonetized it was robbed of its principal function.

When any commodity loses its usefulness it is decreased in value to the extent of the loss. Take for instance gold. Suppose all leading nations of the earth were to demonetize gold and adopt zinc for coinage purposes. Then the principal use of gold is destroyed. It could be used only by the jeweler and ornament manufacturer. Tell us not that its marketable value would not decrease! It would surely greatly depreciate in value. Just like silver is today. If silver could be restored properly to coinage we would soon see a rise in price of bullion, and ere a few years we would see a premium on silver equal to gold.

We need silver as money and a 100 cent dollar, too. There is no reason in the argument that should a law declare free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, a man with gold could buy enough silver to coin two legal dollars for every gold dollar spent. Let us ask: What fool is going to sell his silver bullion at a reduction when he himself can take it to the mints and get a hundred cent dollar for every 37 1/4 grains of silver?

Webster defines intrinsic as internal, inherent—not apparent or accidental, opposed to extrinsic. All substances used in arts have certain inherent or intrinsic properties which tend to make this or that substance more or less desirable, and to such extent influence the desire for their possession. Gold and silver have intrinsic properties which many other substances do not possess, viz., malleability, resistance to acids, chemicals, retention of color, etc. The same cannot be said of copper, zinc, iron, etc. Value is determined by extrinsic influences. If value were determined by inherent or intrinsic influences the price of a commodity could never fluctuate. True with gold and silver, the pure gold and silver would always control its own price by their intrinsic qualities. The intrinsic value of gold and silver is the same as they were in 1873, when silver was demonetized. But the extrinsic values are different, gold remains about the same, and silver about one half. Value is based upon the law of supply and demand. A sudden change in fashions sometimes takes away one-half the value of a certain style of goods. The demand is lessened. Extrinsic influences have been brought to bear. The intrinsic qualities of the goods have not been changed. That inherent quantity called value does not exist in anything. An article is worth its salable price, nothing more.

Supply and demand regulate value of commercial commodities, an increase in demand over the supply increases value and vice versa. Restoration of silver will give it an unlimited demand and its commercial value is bound to be raised. When demand altogether ceases value is gone. The value of silver was not decreased by its intrinsic qualities or, want of, as we often hear the term intrinsic value, but by its demand being decreased by its demonetization in 1873. When the Bland-Allison act of 1878 was passed, providing for the purchase of a limited amount of silver bullion, thus increasing its demand (temporarily) the value of silver instantly rose all over the world, and this increase in value existed as long as this temporary demand lasted.

Again in 1890, when the United States Senate passed a free coinage bill, which was expected to instantly rise in value from 94 cents to \$1.20 per ounce in this country and the same in Europe where legislation was adverse to silver.

Can any one contend in the face of these facts that legislation does not effect the value of gold and silver? Ninety per cent of the present value of gold is fictitious and controlled by legislation. If silver had free and unlimited coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1, its bullion would be worth in this country \$1.29 per ounce. This fact is self-evident. Silver in Europe, admitting there were no monetary demand over there, would be worth the price it would bring in this country less the transportation charges. There is no question about it. An Englishman would not sell his silver at one-half what it brings in the United States.

Suppose there be an unlimited demand for cotton in Virginia at 10 cents a pound, would we sell our cotton here at 5 cents? And if America is far in the lead in silver mining, could she not raise the price of the minority amount mined by other countries? Is not the value of anything maintained when its demand is unlimited? Silver is bound to be restored to its ancient ratio, and it is to America's interest to hasten the time.

CLARENCE P. JONES, M. D. Benson, N. C., Aug. 17, 1899.

Married for a Show.

Chicago, Aug. 24.—Forty-four Chicago couples went to St. Joseph, Mich., to be married today, the inducements being free licenses and weddings without cost. The Maccabees gave an outdoor festival at St. Joseph with a great lake excursion. To advertise the affair and draw a large crowd they offered to pay for the licenses and preachers' services for all couples who would agree to a public ceremony on the veranda of one of the summer hotels.

There were thousands at the dock this morning when the excursion steamer pulled out into the river with its load of passengers. As the bridal couples passed up the gangplank they were readily recognized and hearty cheers were given for them. There was a continuous performance on the hotel veranda at St. Joe, marriages taking place at the rate of one every four minutes for four hours. There were eighteen couples besides those from Chicago.

Sick headache is the bane of many lives. Dr. M. A. Simmons Liver Medicine cures and prevents this annoying complaint.

Coffee in Brazil.

Chicago Record.

The size of the new coffee crop in Brazil is the absorbing question of the moment. It has been estimated all the way from 9,000,000 to 12,000,000 sacks, each sack weighing 60 kilos, or 132 pounds. It may be more or it may be less than either of these figures, but upon the amount of the output depends Brazil's happiness and prosperity. Among the well-informed coffee merchants there is an impression that the maximum yield will come either this year or next, and that it will be followed by a gradual diminution in the amount produced. The exhausting manner in which the country has been handled and the gradual planting of all the land available for coffee growing is assigned as the cause of this predicted decline.

His Life Was Saved.

Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with Typhoid Fever, that ran into pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise." This marvelous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all Throat and Lung Trouble. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Hood Bros.' Drug Store.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Texas Cotton crop is reported short at least 400,000 bales.

The U. S. transport McClellan sailed from Brooklyn last week for San Juan, P. R., and Santiago, Cuba, carrying sixteen hundred tons of clothing, provisions, medicines and building material for the destitute in Porto Rico.

Governor Tyler, of Virginia, has commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence of Thomas W. Price, who was to have been hanged September 6th for murder of Hall Carter. Price is a very old man, and belongs to a highly respected family.

Dr. J. B. Harris, Chairman of the Populist Executive Committee of McLennan County, Texas, was shot and killed last week by J. B. O'Brien, the editor of a Democratic paper. Articles printed in O'Brien's paper caused the homicide. O'Brien is in jail.

Mrs. Georgia L. Borneman, wife of Charles F. Borneman, proprietor of a bakery at Newport News, has eloped with a negro named George Waddell, who is almost coal black. The couple met by appointment on the Norfolk boat and on the same evening proceeded to Baltimore by the Bay Line steamer.

Five men are dead and ten wounded as a result of a fight last week between gendarmes and disappointed Cuban soldiers at Cuevitas, three miles from Santiago, where the payment of the Cuban troops is progressing. Five thousand troops had gathered there to receive pay, and after three days only 580 had been paid. Thousands who had been disappointed at other points had come to Cuevitas, as the last place of payment in the province.

As the result of a fight with his divorced wife, the Rev. William R. Wilburn of Flat Hollow, Ky., is lying at death's door with a fractured skull. The minister and his wife were divorced last July, and under an agreement they were to divide their household goods equally. All went well in the matter of division until they came to a handsome cut glass bowl which both wanted. A quarrel occurred, and the woman smashed the bowl over the head of the minister, severing an artery and fracturing his skull. Wilburn came near bleeding to death before a physician could reach him. He is mortally injured, and Mrs. Wilburn is under arrest.

2,312 Dead.

San Juan de Porto Rico, Aug. 25.—An official report has been issued by the President of the Superior Board of Health showing that there have been 2,312 burials of victims of the recent hurricane. One thousand families are missing, together with their houses. The report states that the number of destitute persons is 250,000.

It is estimated that it will require 25,000,000 pounds of rice and beans and 4,250,000 pounds of codfish to allow of a ration of a pound a day being issued until the crops can be gathered seven or eight weeks hence. The cost of these supplies would be \$125,000.

Good Opening of the Campaign.

Concord Standard.

The campaign for the adoption of the constitutional amendments was opened at Old Fort last Saturday. Mr. M. H. Justice made the opening speech, which is said to have been clear, logical and powerful, carrying conviction with his words.

Major Guthrie followed urging western men to vote for the amendments. He says from his standpoint as a lawyer the amendments do not conflict with the federal Constitution.

There was a number of speeches, closing with Lock Craig, who made one of his pleasing speeches and called for a vote by raising the hand which nearly all did, including several prominent Republicans. It was an auspicious beginning and it is to be reasonably expected that it is but the opening of a most triumphant campaign in the interests of the whole State.