

ZOLA TO GO TO JAIL.

He Is Found Guilty and Sentenced for One Year.

MUST PAY FINE OF \$600.

Accepts the Verdict with a Sneeze at the Court.

CROWD BURSTS INTO CHEERS.

Extra Guards Provided to Prevent an Outburst.

WILD SCENES IN PARIS STREETS.

(SPECIAL CABLE BY ROBERT SHEPARD.)

Paris, Feb. 23.—(Copyright, 1898, by T. R. Heart.)—M. Zola was sentenced this evening to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of 3,000 francs, the maximum penalty prescribed by law. The closing scenes of the trial were dramatic in the extreme.

Laborie pointed out with frequent interruptions from the officers, with the judges leaning back quite indifferently, and all jurors except one showing indifference. Laborie ridiculed the experts and declared amidst the howls from the public that an infamy had been committed in the communication of a secret document. He read the last letters received by Mme. Dreyfus from Devil's Island, which brought tears to the eyes of many women, gave a long eulogy of Plouquet, attacked Esterhazy, and concluded amidst howls of reprobation at 4 o'clock. His peroration was spoiled by the fact his voice broke down. General Gonsse in uniform entered just then. Esterhazy and other prominent figures of the trial were absent. Such shouting arose when Laborie, totally exhausted, sunk back that the President threatened to clear the court. Clemenceau spoke one hour and a half, and then amidst a howl of perfect exclamation.

Van Cassel then rose and said: "After having insulted the army, these fellows try to shelter themselves behind it." This provoked applause which lasted four minutes, in spite of the fact that Van Cassel, with his hands uplifted in the air, appeared to deprecate any demonstration. Laborie, whose voice had quite gone, sprang up indignantly and charged Van Cassel with a personal insult to himself. The audience howled him down and the President again threatened to clear the room.

The judge thanked the prisoners if they had anything to add to their defense. Zola in a hoarse voice said, "Nothing." Perreux shook his head. The judge then directed the jury as to the questions to which they had to make answer: Was Perreux guilty of libeling the Esterhazy court-martial? Was Zola guilty as his accomplice? He added that if extenuating circumstances were found they should be added after answering the questions. The jury retired at 6:30. Mme. Zola left her seat and forced her way up to her husband's side with a packet of sandwiches. Laborie, in a state of great exhaustion, was almost dragged to the counsel's bench. Paul de Roudelle walked off of the body of the court toward the officers and received a great reception.

Verdict Received with Cheers.

The jury returned at five minutes to 7 and announced both the prisoners guilty without extenuating circumstances. Then followed a most violent scene in the court room. There were cries of "Long live France!" "Down with the Jews!" "No Jews in the army!" "Long live Esterhazy!" General Gonsse waved his sword and Deroulle his hat. Mme. Zola lunged her arms around her husband's neck, while Laborie caught his two hands. The court retired to consider the sentence. During the interval, broken by riot after riot of great violence, the judge forced my way up to Zola and assured him of America's sympathy. He said: "This is only the first death which will come out at last. I am certain to suffer in its cause." Laborie certainly agreed.

Scenes in the Courtroom.

Mme. Zola held her husband in her arms, sobbing. Arthur Meyer, editor of Gaulois, rushed up to General Gonsse, embraced him, and cried: "The army is avenged." Other officers rushed up and howled with triumph. Paul de Roudelle came from without. The judge added that the prisoners had three days in which to appeal. In default of appeal you must commence your sentence tomorrow morning. The women friends of Zola now crowded around him and embraced him amidst the howling of the public. Mme. Laborie hung herself on her husband's chest and cried: "If blows are to be given let me be first to receive them." Mme. Jacques Meyer, Clemenceau's sister-in-law, a very beautiful woman, with her arms around Zola's neck, turned round and faced the howling public and cried: "You are all cowards."

I bid one word with Zola then. He said: "What I am particularly anxious about is where I am going to sleep tonight. In the state in which the public is in it will not be safe for me to drive home."

Paul Deroulle, standing on a bench and waving his hat, cried: "This is the greatest day of my life." The court was cleared amidst a deluge of stones and missiles. The guards, whose rifles were loaded with ball cartridges, were cheering vociferously, crying out the sentence was inadequate. Mme. Zola said tonight: "My husband will not return tonight. I wish to thank his American friends for their kind sympathy. My Zola will sleep at M. Laborie's tonight. He will certainly appeal."

Esterhazy has received permission from the Minister of War to prosecute Mathieu Dreyfus.

SCENES AT ZOLA'S TRIAL.

Closing Hours Marked by Violent Disturbances from Crowds in the Courtroom.

Paris, Feb. 23.—M. Zola was sentenced today to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of 3,000 francs (\$600).

The jury found Zola guilty as charged in all the counts of the indictment and declared there were no extenuating circumstances.

M. Zola, on hearing the verdict, cried: "They are cannibals."

followed. M. Laborie, M. Perreux, and some of the others present embraced M. Zola. M. Perreux, the manager of the Aurore, in which paper M. Zola published his charges against the conduct of the Esterhazy court-martial, was condemned to four months' imprisonment and to pay 3,000 francs fine.

There was extreme tension in court while the jury was out, and the public was on tenterhooks until the verdict was rendered. Then the people burst into tremendous applause and cheering.

In the meanwhile all the approaches to the Palace of Justice had been cleared, the police commissary charged with the safety of M. Zola having declared that he could not guarantee the latter's safety until the streets were in thorough control of the police.

Excepting the means were taken as the public emerged from the Assizes Court. Outside the building there was terrific cheering, especially upon the appearance of the officers who have figured in the trial. They were almost carried in triumph as shouts of "Death to the Jews!" resounded on all sides. A number of violent high energy and a police secretary was slightly injured.

Mob Seemed to Be Delirious.

The mob seemed to be delirious, shrieking and howling down the streets with Jews with ferocity.

M. Zola emerged from the court at 7:30 p. m. and his appearance was the signal for tumultuous demonstrations and shouts of "Down with Zola!" "Death to Zola!"

The crowd made a mad rush after his carriage, but a strong bulwark of officers intervened and saved him from the fury of his denunciations.

There was increased excitement today in the precincts of the Palace of Justice, where M. Zola and Perreux have been since Feb. 7, charged by the government in substance with making libelous comment upon the conduct of the Esterhazy court-martial.

M. Laborie, counsel for M. Zola, resumed his argument for the defense. He finished at 4 p. m. when M. Clemenceau, counsel for the prosecution, followed. The case was then submitted to the jury.

Referring to the bordereau, counsel maintained that it was written by Mathieu Dreyfus and said that the presentation of several secret documents at the court-martial fully established this.

Referring to the secret document, the speaker, Premier Melne's refusal to discuss the subject when M. Jaures, the Socialist leader, interpellated the government on the subject in the Chamber of Deputies, M. Laborie said it could be concluded therefrom that the government had something to hide. [Uprou.]

Continuing, M. Laborie said "General M. Laborie of War at the time of the Dreyfus court-martial wrong the sentence out of the court-martial in defiance of all law."

M. Laborie exclaimed: "I believe the country will soon realize the gravity of the situation and will revolt and protest in the name of eternal morality. This is what M. Zola has done."

Reference to the Document.

Referring to the document which General Pellieux unexpectedly produced in court, purporting to warn the Minister of War not to confess that he ever had relations with that Jew, counsel maintained that the note in reality said "with that Jewish elique," and asserted that the authorities had not produced the alleged incriminating document because "it would have resulted, not in war, but in ridicule."

The speaker, M. Laborie, justified Colonel Plouquet's search of Major Esterhazy's papers, and pointed out that the latter had refused to testify in court. Counsel further contended that General Gonsse's correspondence showed that Colonel Plouquet acted with the concurrence of his chiefs, and that the General would have stopped the Colonel if positive proof of the guilt of Dreyfus had been shown.

Continuing, counsel asserted that the government veered round against the inquiry when it feared it would cause trouble in the army and took the attitude of washing its hands of the whole affair. Colonel Plouquet then became embarrassing and was shipped off to Tunis. He would, according to counsel, have been sent to the extreme frontier of Tripoli had not General Leclerc intervened.

There was a commotion in court when M. Laborie, referring to Dreyfus, said his appointment on the general staff was "badly received by the Jew batters." Counsel further remarked "Dreyfus and his wife have divulged anything about the hydraulic brake for the artillery because the contrivance has been known since 1889."

Advocate General Protests.

Here the Advocate General protested against M. Laborie going outside of the case, but the judge insisted on doing so.

"Infantry officers, including Major Esterhazy, could have been acquainted with this contrivance. Yet, without proof, an innocent man was arrested, who, though a Jew, would be the last man to betray secrets, for he was only too happy to serve France as a member of the general staff."

M. Laborie then reviewed the various conduct and indecentness of Major Esterhazy, who, he said, all eminent men believe was a traitor.

Counsel then asked who could be Major Esterhazy's backers, and declared that the "fairly tale," representing Emperor William's German Government, had been divulged anything about the hydraulic brake for the artillery because the contrivance has been known since 1889."

"It was impossible," continued M. Laborie, "to obtain justice at the court-martial. He stands before you," added M. Laborie.

"M. Zola's stand was made against the Minister for War, who had dared, though in good faith, to take the responsibility of getting Dreyfus condemned."

Army's Honor Not at Stake.

In his peroration, M. Laborie said: "Don't allow yourselves to be deceived with the idea that the honor of the army is involved because some of its members have been deceived. Don't allow yourselves to be troubled or intimidated by rumors of war. Fear nothing, for the moral energy of the country still lives."

It was with the hearts of honest men that victorious battles are achieved. Give that example of firmness, for you must feel that in this man lies France's honor. [Protests from spectators.]

"Your verdict will signify three things: 'Vive l'Armée,' 'Vive la République!' 'Vive la France!' That is to say, 'Vive la République!'"

"Vive l'Idéal Éternel!" This is what I ask you to proclaim by your verdict."

Amid loud applause, mingled with hisses and cheers for the army and the republic, the hearing was suspended. Immense crowds of people then gathered outside the Palace of Justice and the police were reinforced by battalions of soldiers.

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Crucified," hung high behind the bench.

M. Maitre Laborie ended his speech by saying: "The name of Plante is the most abhorred in history." The figure of Christ crucified, which had been placed on the wall, passed with pompous decorum he exclaimed: "Today, associated with Christ, I, too, am a victim of mob violence, official cowardice, and a grand miscarriage of justice."

But he did not wince nor flinch. He looked as indifferent as a mere spectator. Mme. Zola's devoted heart at first seemed broken, but when she felt that she must brace herself up to rise to the height of Zola's grand situation she became calm and self-possessed. His friends, the artists Brunau and Desmoulin, were more broken-hearted than she. They have daily accompanied Zola, protecting him from violence. M. Laborie's meanness was known as the public emerged from the Assizes Court.

Outside the building there was terrific cheering, especially upon the appearance of the officers who have figured in the trial. They were almost carried in triumph as shouts of "Death to the Jews!" resounded on all sides. A number of violent high energy and a police secretary was slightly injured.

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battles—a sturdy French peasant. M. Zola was reared by peasantry to be hardy and enduring. His health is not so good as a while ago, owing to his arduous life, but the prison is sure to strengthen him, and then there is the stimulating moral force.

IS A CONDEMNATION OF FRANCE.

London Papers Unanimous in Their Tribute to Zola and His Splendid Courage.

London, Feb. 24.—The editorials in the morning papers, based on the special dispatches from Paris, pay a unanimous tribute to M. Zola's splendid courage and public spirit when fighting against the heaviest odds.

The Daily News, in commenting upon the sentence, which it characterizes as "savage and brutal," says it is a condemnation not only of Zola but of the republic itself, adding: "The jury yielded to the military dictation, which now overrides law, and France is virtually in the hands of a military government."

The Times says: "The sentence is an appalling outcome of the whole affair, which must cause the profoundest misgivings among all Frenchmen capable of serious reflection."

Accounts are conflicting as to the course that Zola will take. The Times understands that he will not, which is more likely to be correct. He can remain at liberty for three days, during which time he may decide whether to appeal to the Court of Cassation, an appeal which can only be taken on the ground of irregularities of procedure. If these were proved it would justify an annulment of the trial. Should the appeal be taken it would not come on before the Court of Cassation.

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