Lettre de Henry P. Steele à Émile Zola datée du 24 février 1898

Auteur(s) : Steele, Henry P.

Transcription

Texte de la lettre

Papier à lettres.

Logo en haut :

Henry P. Steele

Wholesale & retail

Dealer in Groceries and Mears

200. 15th St.

The Williamson Hattner Eng. Co. Denver

Tel . 111

Denver, Colo., Feb 24 1898

À la main :

1. Emile Zola, Esq,

Paris, France

My dear Sir,

Accept the sympathy Congratulations of one, who, though in a distant land recognizes a genius here.

Sympathy for present (I hope temporary) defeat : Congratulations upon your gallant fight. His humiliating to realise ethat courage and fortitude, are often necessary to champion truth and Justice.

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With sincerest regards,

Les folios

En passant la souris sur une vignette, le titre de l'image apparaît.

4 Fichier(s)

Relations

Ce document n'a pas de relation indiquée avec un autre document du projet.

Citer cette page

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Centre d'Étude sur Zola et le Naturalisme & Institut des textes et manuscrits modernes, CNRS-ENS ; projet EMAN (CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne Nouvelle)..
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- Dreyfus
- procès

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Contributeur(s)Cantiran, Élise
Notice créée par Richard Walter Notice créée le 21/12/2018 Dernière modification le 21/08/2020

THE DAILY NEWS: DENVER, COLORADO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1898.

EMILE ZOLA FOUND GUILTY

Sentenced to One Year in Prison and a Fine of 3,000 Francs.

Verdict Received With Cries of "Bravo" and Cheers for the Army.

M. Laborie's' Eloquence Futile to Save the Novelist From the Prejudice Against His Race—Mad Rush After His Carriage.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—M. Zola was found guilty by the jury to-day on all the charges, and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of 3,000 francs.

M. Merreux, 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 a big demonstration outside the court when the audience rushed out announcing the verdict. The crowd waved their hats, cried "Bravo!" and cheered for the army.

Defense Concluded.

When court convened this morning M. Laborie resumed his argument in behalf of Zola. Referring to the bordereau, counsel maintained that it was written by Major Esterhazy, and said that the presentation of several secret documents at the court-martial fully established this.

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 clique," and asserted that the authorities had not produced the alleged incriminating documents, because "it would have resulted, not in war, but in ridicule."

Continuing, counsel asserted that the



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EMILE ZOLA.
Who was Yesterday Convicted of Libeling the French Army.

government veered round against the inquiry when it feared it would cause trouble in the court, and took up the attitude of washing its hands of the whole affair.

Commotion in Court.

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-baiters."

Counsel further remarked: "Dreyfus could not have divulged anything about the hydraulic brake for the artillery, because the contrivance has been known since 1889."

M. Laborie then reviewed the "shady conduct" and indebtedness of Major Esterhazy, who, he said, all eminent men believe wrote the bordereau.

Counsel then asked who could be Major Esterhazy's backers and declared that the "fairy tale" representing Emperor William of Germany as corresponding with Dreyfus was simply laughable.

In his peroration M. Laborie said:

M. Laborie's Peroration.

"Don't allow yourselves to be deceived with the idea that the honor of the army is involved because some of its members have ignored the law. 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 is 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'Armee,' 'Vive la Republique,' 'Vive la France;' that is to say, 'Vive la Loi,' 'Vive L'Ideal Eternal.' That is what I ask you to proclaim by your verdict."

Amid loud applause, mingled with hisses and cheers for the army and for the republic, the hearing was suspended.

Immense crowds of people then gathered outside the palace of justice, and the police were reinforced, trouble being feared.

When the hearing was resumed, M. Clemenceau, for M. Perreux, made a speech seconding the remarks of M. Laborie.

The advocate general made a brief reply, the jury retiring at 6:30 p. m., and was absent about half an hour.

Found Guilty as Charged.

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

M. Zola, on hearing the verdict, said:

"They are cannibals."

Mr. Zola's sentence of one year's imprisonment and a fine of 3,000 francs is the maximum punishment.

Frantic bravos greeted the announcement of Zola's sentence and intense excitement followed. M. Laborie, M. Perreux and some others present embraced M. Zola.

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

Excitement Outside the Court.

In the meanwhile all the approaches to the Palais de 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. Exceptional measures 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

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A number of violent fights ensued and a police secretary was slightly injured.

The mob seemed to be delirious, shrieking cheers for the army and howling down the Jews with fierceness.

M. Zola emerged from the court at 7:30 p. m., and his appearance was the signal for tumultuous denunciations and insults and shouts of "Down with Zola," "Death to Zola." The crowd made a mad rush after his carriage, but a strong bulwark of police intervened and saved him from the fury of his denunciators.

A large force of police was stationed to-night in the neighborhood of M. Zola's residence. Many persons called, but all were informed by the servants that M. Zola had not returned, but was dining down town.

The following questions were put to the jury:

First—"Is M. Perreux guilty of having slandered the first court martial of Paris by publishing in the Aurore an article signed by M. Emile Zola, containing the following attacks: (Here followed the passages upon which the indictment was based.)

Second—"Is M. Zola guilty of having provided M. Perreux and other editors with the means of commiting this slander?"

The jury answered both questions in the affirmative.

Senator Joseph Fabre announces his intention to interpellate the minister of war, General Billot, in the senate on the question whether the chief of staff has experienced an abuse of power over his subordinates.

M. Zola returned home about midnight without further incident. The city is calm. Of the thirty persons who were arrested during the demonstrations all have been liberated except one, who shouted: "Vive Zola," "A Bas France."

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Special to The News.

PUEBLO, Colo., Feb. 23.—William H. Smith, colored, was put on trial in the district court to-day charged with the murder of William H. Burnam, also colored, on January 31 last. Smith claims that the killing was the result of an accident and bases his defense on that ground.

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Denver, Colo., FEB 24 1898 189

M. Emile Zola, Esq
Paris France.

My dear Sir.

Accept the sympathy & congratulations of one, who, though in a distant land recognizes a genuine hero.

Sympathy for present (& I hope temporary) defeat.
Congratulations upon your gallant fight.

It is humiliating to realize, that courage and fortitude, are often necessary to champion Truth and Justice.

FEB 24 1898

With highest regards

Henry P. Steele

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