

# DREYFUS PARDONED AND PROBABLY FREE

It Is Reported that He Is  
With His Family.

## NO EXCITEMENT IN PARIS

News Created Less Interest Than  
Result of a Big Race.

## APPEAL IS WITHDRAWN

But Case to Continue Before Cour de  
Cassation — Said to be Probable  
that Dreyfus Will  
Go to England.

*Special to The New York Times.*

PARIS, Sept. 19.—It is stated here tonight on excellent authority that Capt. Alfred Dreyfus has already been released and has left Rennes.

It is even said that he dined with his family this evening.

The pardon for Capt. Dreyfus, decided upon to-day by the Ministers, will not prevent his friends demanding from the Court of Cassation a second revision of his case.

ROWLAND STRONG.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—The Rennes correspondent of The Daily Telegraph, wiring at 9 o'clock last evening, says:

"There is reason to believe that Dreyfus is already out of prison, and that, with his wife, he will probably leave Rennes, to-night."

PARIS, Sept. 19. — The Ministers, after a Council to-day, authorized the statement that they had decided to pardon Capt. Dreyfus "in principle," and that the pardon would take effect in a few days.

Dreyfus, it was added, has relinquished his appeal for a reversal of the judgment of the court-martial.

The official announcement was, however, only made in the form quoted in order to avoid demonstrations of any kind at Rennes and in Paris. But the pardon of Dreyfus is not merely imminent. It was actually signed this morning.

"in principle" is an idiom sometimes used in semi-official announcements of forthcoming action. It is not known whether the pardon includes amnesty.

It is said that Dreyfus will be sent abroad before the promulgation of his pardon, in order to avoid demonstrations.

The utmost calm prevails throughout Paris. The decision of the Cabinet to pardon Dreyfus seems to have passed unnoticed. The only remark heard was:

"We expected it."

The announcement had already been discounted by predictions. When the newsboys ran along at about 5:15 P. M. with the first editions containing the statement that the Cabinet had decided to pardon Dreyfus the newspapers sold quickly, but there was no rush for them upon the part of the Boulevardiers.

Those who bought the papers sat down in front of the cafés and read the announcement without comment. Every one expected it, and the decision met with no opposition.

The decision of the Cabinet really created less interest in Paris than would be the result of a big horse race. In front of the offices of the Libre Parole, where a crowd usually assembles in the evening to gaze upon the huge colored transparencies outside the windows of the leading anti-Semite organ, there was not the slightest gathering or the faintest sign of a demonstration either for or against Dreyfus.

One would think that the fire of the Dreyfus agitation had burned itself out.

The anti-Dreyfusard evening papers tried to infuse interest into the Government's action by a rabid attack upon President Loubet, but their efforts were futile. The peaceful crowds that filled the tables in front of the cafés, sipping after-dinner coffee and cognac, looked at the newsboys who displayed the front pages of these sheets with their violent headlines, but utterly refused to get excited. The majority did not even discuss the matter or only made the passing remark that the decision was just what had been expected and predicted by every Parisian newspaper since the Rennes court-martial delivered its verdict.

The anti-Dreyfusard *Soir* had the most sensational caption, two lines of enormous letters extending across the entire front page, announcing, "The Traitor, Dreyfus, Pardoned—Outrage on the Army." Then, in the course of an article violently attacking President Loubet, it said:

"Loubet has given himself a coup de grace in pardoning Dreyfus. He should be punished for committing an outrage upon the army, for his decision amounts to this. By a stroke of the pen he has destroyed the effect of the sentences of two courts-martial, and has declared that two military courts have lied." The *Soir* adds:

"The affair has become grave when the Chief of State assumes the leadership of the anti-military movement, and pardons a confessed traitor, under the pretext that he has been condemned twice instead of once."

The *Presse* this evening says:

"Dreyfus withdrew his appeal to-day. The traitor will now be set free and be able to give lectures in England and America on the secrets of the iron safe in the Etut Major Bureaux."

Among the Dreyfusard organs, the Socialist *Droita de l'Homme* says:

"Our task remains the same after as before the liberation of Dreyfus, to continue the campaign against all those who are responsible for the lamentable affair, and unmask the forgers, traitors, and false witnesses, even though they may be covered with glittering decorations."

The *Journal des Debats* repeats the report that Mme. Dreyfus has taken a villa at Folkestone, near Dover, England. This report has been denied, but many believe Dreyfus will go to England on his release.