

No Truth In It

Mr. John Bodenstat, of Buffalo, has written The Star a letter for publication, but it will not appear, because we doubt the good faith of the writer of it and suspect that he has an ulterior object and desires to bolster up some story that will anger Germans in the United States by having his letter appear in a Canadian paper so that he can quote it as independent evidence.

The letter is of just such a kind as might come from the Berlin Bureau of Duplicity. The writer of it declares that "it is poor policy to treat unfortunates such as the Austrian and German reservists now in Canada with undue severity. Prisoners of war are not prisoners in the sense that criminals are looked upon."

The object of this plausible letter can but be to make mischief. There is no "undue severity" and no "severity" of any kind shown towards Austrian and German reservists in Canada. We are not that kind of people. There are many German reservists in Toronto, married and engaged in business, and they live among their neighbors and go about their business precisely as if no war troubled Europe at all. Austrian reservists who were going to the front traveled on the same train from Toronto to Halifax with a hundred of our regular soldiers, and not a finger and not a voice was raised against them on the journey nor after it. We understand that it was not until they reached England that, war having then been declared, they were detained. If Mr. Bodenstat, of Buffalo, can give us any instance wherein any Austrian or German reservists have been treated with undue severity or any other kind of severity in Canada we shall be glad to have him send us particulars.