
AN IMPORTANT DISTINCTION.

Springfield (Mass.) Union :--The distinction between the terms "enemy alien" and "alien enemy" appears to be lost on a large number of persons, who use the terms interchangeably as having the same meaning. An enemy alien is any person who is a citizen or subject of one of the countries with which the United States is at war. So long as he is well behaved, observes the laws of this country and neither by deed nor act attempts to injure this country or aid the country of which he is a subject, he continues to be only an enemy alien, and is not regarded as dangerous, but if he engages or attempts to engage in any overt acts against this country his status changes to that of alien enemy, which puts him in the dangerous class and makes him liable to imprisonment or internment. All subjects of Germany and Austria living in the United States to-day are enemy aliens, but, fortunately, only a small proportion of them are such as may properly be regarded as alien enemies.