

SPARING THE SPIES.

Complaint is made in a Montreal paper, the Mail, because the government at Ottawa has allowed the officials of the Austrian consulate to exercise undue liberty, even to the direction of subordinates in an anti-British canvass for Austrian recruits. When war was declared on Germany, because it declined to give the desired assurances of respect for France's boundaries and Belgium's neutrality, the Austrian consulate should have been closed, and the officials in connection with it should have been given a chance to depart. It was very unwise of any official to undertake the recruiting of Austrian forces in Canada and from Canadian soil. The poor fool who was detected in Hamilton, carrying out the orders of his superiors, the befriended officials of Montreal, realized the gravity of his offence, and invited his captors to kill him. He knew what would have happened to him under similar circumstances. In Germany or Austria a spy, or a suspect, is shot between sundown and sunrise, and it is all the treatment one of his occupation can expect. Our government is a little too kind or shy or considerate of the men who would betray British interests while enjoying the liberty of a British subject.