

# A REINTERVIEW VIEW OF LOCAL DIFFERENCES

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Residence Mercury: It will be noted in our new column that there have been some important findings

in Pembroke between citizens of German and British descent. A little steadyheadedness and restraint of the tongue on both sides would save all this undesirable unpleasantness. Although most of the Germans in Canada are here because they or their fathers did not like the conditions of life under the military discipline of their fatherland, it stands to reason that they do not feel altogether in this war matter as do the Canadians of British descent. It would not be human nature if it were so; and they would not be the best of Canadians in the long run if they did not have a certain amount of heart sympathy with the men of their forefather's race, even though their heads tell them there is greater freedom and comfort under the British flag; and it

is quite possible that they almost resent the expressions of Canadians on the barbarities that have been committed by Germans at the seat of war. But whatever their natural feeling in this respect, it is well that they should restrain any public expression of that resentment; or of their possible sympathy with their fatherland; and it is also well that those of British descent should be careful not to unnecessarily hurt their feelings. That the German under the militarist training of his home land would probably make short work of the Canadian does not mean that the German brought up under freer conditions would not exhibit a different spirit altogether. Germany, well advanced in many ways, is in its political methods a few centuries behind time.