

## AUSTRIANS TELL STORIES.

### Testify Against Steamship Clerk— Trouble With Interpreters.

When the trial of J. J. Rowens, the steamship clerk charged with conspiring to assist enemies of the King to leave the country, was resumed before Chief Justice Mulock and a jury in the Criminal Assizes, the court and counsel for the Crown and prisoner were visibly annoyed by the apparent inability of two interpreters to give a correct translation of the witnesses' answers to questions. After warning the first interpreter to speak more plainly, his Lordship became disgusted and asked him withdrawn from the case. Another was quickly secured.

The principal witnesses for the Crown are prisoners of war at Stanley Barracks, and they were brought into the court under a military guard.

The first witness examined was John Stoccold, No. 5. Through the efforts of an interpreter it was adduced that he had once served in the Austrian army as a member of the 41st Infantry Regiment. He was a reservist and had been in Canada two years. The witness identified Rowens as the man who visited him at Niagara Falls and wanted to know if he (the witness) wished to return to the old country.

"I said if the others go I will go. He said I mustn't speak Austrian, but Roumanian."

"Why don't you stand by your country now that she is at war?" asked his Lordship of the second witness, also an Austrian reservist.

"How can I when I am not able?" countered the witness.

He declared that if he could bring his wife from Austria he would not go to war. He knew he was interned, but could not tell why.

The next man was No. 35. His name, George Petrolci. Born in Austria, he came to Canada three years ago. He did not hesitate in identifying Rowens as the man who visited the Austrian camp at Niagara Falls.

Two weeks before his party were caught at the border, two of his friends left Canada for home.

"Where did they get their tickets?" asked Mr. DuVernet.

"From him," replied the prisoner, pointing to the prisoner. "We asked him how he could do it and he said 'That is my business.'"