

# SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST AUSTRIAN

## Augustus Prager Arrested By Kingston Police---Said To Be Implicated In Plot To Do Damage TO Public Buildings.

Constables James Bateson and John Naylor made a sensational arrest when they took into custody Augustus Prager, about thirty-five years of age. He is an Austrian and will likely have to face a very serious charge. The accused is married. He and his wife have been living for some time on the Raglan Road, near Montreal street.

Just what the charge will be made against the prisoner was not known early on Thursday afternoon, but it is understood that the police have in their possession a letter Prager wrote to another man seeking to get his aid and others to strike a blow in Kingston on behalf of the Germans. The contents of the letter were not given for publication.

The fact that a letter which Prager is alleged to have written went astray, led to his arrest. From what the Whig was able to learn it appears that Prager wrote a letter to a certain resident of Kingston. It did not get to the right party, but the person who did receive it opened it, and, finding that it was not intended for him, sent it back to the post office.

Prager's arrest came about as a result of an inspection made of the contents of the letter by the post office authorities.

As soon as the post office authorities found out the contents of the letter, they lost no time in communicating with the police and military authorities, and a warrant was got out in quick order for Prager. Constables Bateson and Naylor were handed the warrant, and were told to get their man as soon as possible, and they made quick work of their job.

The arrest of Prager caused quite a sensation in the city, for he is well-known to many citizens. The warrant for his arrest was handed to Constables James Bateson and John Naylor, and they got their man just as he was about to enter his home

on Raglan Road, near Montreal street, with his wife. He made no protest about being arrested, but his wife objected, stating that she had a right to know why the police wanted her husband.

Constable Bateson told the accused that he was wanted for being too much German, whereupon the prisoner replied, "I thought so."

The prisoner was brought to the police station and was closely followed by his wife who again made a strong protest about her husband being taken away in this way without her knowing the particulars.

Prager was placed under arrest at noon on Wednesday, but in order not to handicap the police in their work, no mention of the arrest was made in the Whig on Wednesday night.

The prisoner was locked up in a cell at the police station as soon as he arrived, and was kept there all the time. Strict orders were issued that no person should be allowed to see him. Relatives brought his meals to the police station, but they were not allowed to see him.

The prisoner did not appear to feel his position at all. He spent the most of his time walking around his cell. Thursday he was very anxious to get the local newspaper to see what had been said about his arrest but his request was not granted.

Prager, so it is stated, has been living in Kingston and this district for some years. His wife is a Kingston girl. It is stated that he spent much of his time employed as a book agent going around various parts of the country.

The news of the arrest of the young Austrian caused much discussion in the city.

It is understood that the letter alleged to have been written by the young Austrian stated that there were many "rebels" in Kingston, and that an endeavor would be made to get together.