

## **BERNSTORFF.**

The departure of Count von Bernstorff from the shores of the United States, no matter where he goes or what becomes of him, will occasion but one serious regret in the mind of any well-informed and self-respecting citizen either of the United States or of Canada. That one regret is that the courtesies due to a Foreign Ambassador discourage his immediate internment as an **alien enemy** dangerous to the peace and the highest interests of America.

Never in all its history has the United States harbored so graciously and so generously an Ambassador from any foreign country who represented so thoroughly as he has done what is worst and most Machiavellian in the perverted and dunderheaded diplomacy of what the world now knows as bedevilled Prussian junkerdom. With careful attention to all the punctilios of social life as it prevails in diplomatic centres like Washington, he played his part in the clubs and social circles, before his true character and real purposes began to be suspected, played it with a serpentine craft that deceived even the very elect.

Explain it how one will, the fact is that von Bernstorff knows far too much about the facts of most importance in the defences of the United States, and has intrigued far too deeply into the secrets of the nation and its rulers, for his dismissal from Washington to Berlin to be either wise or safe.

To him nothing was sacred, neither truth nor honor nor any of the courtesies of civilized life. If the whole story were told—and the indisputable evidence will yet be given to the public—there are but few crimes of black dishonor and shameless villainy that would not have a place in the indictments against him and the staff of specialists in intrigue and criminality which have been attached, in one way or another, to the German Embassy. Murder and incendiarism and explosions are perhaps the most spectacular but by no means the most heinous of those crimes, and Capt. Boy-Ed and von Papen were only a little more conspicuous than others as criminally involved as they.

But the head and front of this whole offending, reaching from Canada to Mexico and from New England to California, and absolutely without parallel in the history of international relations between any two nations, civilized or savage, is this polished master of scientific deviltry, who is dignified by being given passports by the Government at Washington. The only passport von Bernstorff has earned since he set foot in Washington would be for a one-way trip to a felon's cell.

Slander him? No. As an exemplar and exponent of the accepted doctrine in modern German ethics, that the State is above morality and free from the prohibitions of the Ten Commandments, Count von Bernstorff, the representative of the German State, holds himself as under none of the obligations of truth or honor, of virtue or morality. Nothing would trouble him now except to be sent to his own place in solitary internment reserved for the worst and cleverest criminals against a free people's decency and peace.

The pity of it is that for justice to von Bernstorff's type of Foreign Ambassador there is no precedent.