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## THE TRIAL OF THE EX-KAISER.

As might be expected, as soon as it has been determined that the ex-Kaiser is to be tried for his crimes, voices are heard in protest. There is no precedent. It is not usual. He has broken no law. There is no jurisdiction. If he is tried he will be regarded as a martyr to the vindictive vengeance of his enemies. It is better to let him sink into obscurity. He has been punished enough already, etc., etc.

In view of these and other objections, it may be well to see what the present German Government has to say. In the Canadian Official Record of 26 June, 1919, there is a resumé of the German protest against the terms of peace. In chapter 4, concerning Reparation, they say: "Germany accepts the obligation to pay for all damages sustained by the civil population in the occupied parts of Belgium and France inasmuch as she has brought upon them the terrors of war *by a breach of international law through the violation of Belgian neutrality.*" This it may be observed is a candid admission that the invasion of Belgium was a violation of international law. To kill peaceful people, to render their wives widows and their children orphans, to rob them, to burn their houses and property, to violate their women, cannot, after all is said and done, ever be compensated by money however large the sum.

When we come to chapter nine this is what is said: "As to the trial of the Kaiser, Germany cannot recognize the justification of such criminal prosecution which is not founded upon legal basis, or agree to the competence of the special tribunal proposed, or the admissibility of the surrender to be requested of the Netherlands. She cannot admit that a German be placed before a special foreign tribunal to be convicted as a consequence of an exceptional