

CASPER SCHMIDT IS LOYAL TO AMERICA

WELL KNOWN CITIZEN ACCUSED
OF PRO-GERMANISM MAKES
PUBLIC STATEMENT.

Casper Schmidt, one of the prominent residents of this city, of German descent, in an open letter to the public today declares himself loyal to America to the backbone, and that he has not a particle of sympathy for the Germans. Mr. Schmidt was visited at his home last week by the mob that forced Carl Herrmann and his son to kiss the flag, and otherwise debased themselves. Mr. Schmidt did not come out when the crowd summoned him, and thus escaped being put through the same treatment.

In his letter Mr. Schmidt declares that rumors have been current from time to time, that he was pro-German. These he has tried to run down without success, and it is to put an end to these that he makes a public statement. The letter in full follows:

Editor Evening Press:—Will you allow me space in your paper to answer the article in last Saturday's Evening Press. You state "according to reports I have been suspected of being pro-German."

These reports have been circulated in the city for some time and many times I have tried to run them down, but was unable to do so, as one got it from the other. It was very unpleasant about a year ago, but I thought I would keep still and the people would find out their mistake themselves and the wrong they had done me. But up to now it has not been so, and as my name has been mentioned in The Evening Press of being suspected as pro-German, I feel it my duty to break silence.

In 1884 I came to the United States a young man. I liked the United States, and my parents and the whole family followed me in 1889. Since that time I haven't written a letter to Germany nor received one. I have nobody in Germany I know and why should I be pro-German. As stated I left Germany in 1884 and why? The answer is I was not satisfied with the militarists of Germany. I found this country to be a better place for a young man to live in, so in 1890 I became a citizen of the United States and foreswore allegiance to foreign rulers and in particular to the Emperor of Germany. I have no ties of any kind in Germany. All that I have and look for is here, and I wish to say publicly that I am true to the oath I took when I became a citizen of the United States, and have been and will continue to be loyal to my adopted country, and all rumors to the contrary are absolutely false.

CASPER SCHMIDT.