

RUSSIANS DISAGREE.

£100 DAMAGES CLAIMED.

INNISFAIL, May 16.

"You are a spy," and similar hostile epithets were alleged, during the hearing of a case in the Magistrate's Court, to have been used in an argument between two local Russians, when George Smagin proceeded against Nicholas Dvorik, claiming £100 damages for assault and battery. The complaint alleged that the defendant unlawfully assaulted and beat the plaintiff at East Innisfail, by striking him on or about the head and body, causing a lacerated wound to the scalp, a contused wound on the right forearm, and injury to the index finger of the left hand. It was stated by the plaintiff that the defendant used two spanners when making the assault. The defendant stated that Smagin hit him first, and he retaliated, striking Smagin about the body with his fist. In reply to Mr. M'Namee, who appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant said he had known the plaintiff before the war, and denied ever referring to him as living in the trenches like a worm. He did not call the plaintiff a spy.

The further hearing was adjourned.