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THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.**Rector's Outspoken Article.****"Bound to Consider Our Men First."**

In the current issue of the *Heene Parish Magazine*, the Rector (the Rev. J. P. Fallows) has a short article on the question of the treatment of British Prisoners of War by the Huns. The article is so full of common-sense, and so plainly expresses the feeling of the Nation on this subject, that we do not hesitate to give our readers the opportunity of thinking with Mr. Fallows. Under the heading of "A Terrible Responsibility," he says:

"There seems no doubt that our prisoners in Germany are being slowly starved, in many cases also ill-treated and put to hard labour. It also seems proved that some proportion of food sent from England reaches them, and keeps them alive, and some proportion never reaches them. It would seem evident that parcels that may be delivered or may not be delivered, is not the only way of helping these poor fellows. It also seems plain that if there is any means of helping them it is imperative and most urgent that we use these means. France and Russia have done a great deal to ameliorate the treatment of their men in German hands.

"The French did not hesitate to apply the equality treatment. Hearing that their country men were short of food, they put

German Prisoners on Short Rations,
and let it be known that this would continue

until the French prisoners were properly fed. This led to more food being served to French prisoners. Again, the Germans sent a number of French captives to work in malarial marshes. The French threatened that they would at once send a similar number of Germans to the back lands of Morocco.

"The French were brought back from the marshes. The Germans robbed the French prisoners of money sent by relatives by giving them twenty per cent. short on exchange. The French did the same. Again with good results. Why should not we protect our poor fellows in German captivity? For instance, what is the sense of our paying to German Officer prisoners about double what the Germans allow our Officer prisoners!

"All this might be done without any infringement of the laws of humanity. We are bound to consider our men first, or, we ought not to try to kill or injure Germans at all.

A Terrible Responsibility.

"It is a terrible responsibility, and the first thought of us all should be for our prisoners, and to secure them, by any plan or action whatever, humane treatment. It is difficult to write calmly on such a subject, and our authorities ought not to remain calm if they know of our poor starving countrymen in German hands. The Russians have arranged for visits by Red Cross Nurses to German Camps. This has had good results. We read with amazement that this plan for England was rejected by a Government Committee.

"France and Germany exchange photographs of prisoners, and this has led to many missing men being recognised, and cruel suspense ended. Why cannot we do the same!"