

WORKING THE PRISONERS.

The revolt, if the difficulty at Fort Henry can be designated by so large a word, is due in part to the unemployment of the men. They are allowed to voluntarily exercise, to walk or run about the open court, to play ball, to amuse themselves as they please. But they are not worked, and that is the pity of it. These men are not like the prisoners of war in Europe. They were not taken in battle and are not held as hostages. They are merely "suspects."

Many of them are guilty of no offence. They are merely Germans, or Turks, or Austrians, whose countries are at war with Britain, and who cannot be trusted at large. They would either seek to return to their respective lands, as reservists, to engage in war, or be tempted, or induced, with a spirit of revenge, to do some harm or mischief to Canadians. In detention they cannot be made to work, but can be made to behave themselves.

In Germany all the prisoners are employed, in road work and in civic improvements. Now that spring is here the lands of the Germans, and especially of the men who are serving their country in the war, will be cultivated. "No women, child, or old men," says Senator Beveridge, who has been touring through Germany and writes of his experience in the *Review of Reviews*, "hard work in the fields of Germany during the present year, unless they insist upon doing so, for there are enough prisoners anxious to perform that labor in preference to the confinement of the camps." The suspects might be glad and willing to work, for their own sakes. They would feel the better of it, and would not have time to quarrel over their food because they have nothing else to do.