

It has been worth something to be a British subject. It is worth everything, if need be, to keep our heritage unimpaired. How much let us learn from a Senator of the United States, whose words I repeat :

"I think that one of the grandest things in all the history of Great Britain is that she does protect her subjects everywhere, anywhere, and under all circumstances. I do not wonder that a British subject loves his country. This little incident, with which you are all familiar, is a marvellous illustration of the protection which Great Britain gives to her subjects :

"The King of Abyssinia took a British subject named Cameron, about twenty years ago, carried him up to the fortress of Magdala, on the heights of a rocky mountain, and put him into a dungeon without cause assigned. It took six months for Great Britain to find that out. Then Great Britain demanded his immediate release. King Theodore refused the release.

"In less than ten days after that refusal was received ten thousand British soldiers, including five thousand sepoy, were on board ships of war, and were sailing down the coast. When they had disembarked, they were marched across that terrible country, a distance of seven hundred miles, under a burning sun, up the mountain, up to the very heights in front of the frowning dungeon, then gave battle, battered down the iron gates of the stone walls, reached down into the dungeon, and lifted out of it that one British subject.

"Then they carried him down the mountain, across the land, put him on board a white-winged ship and sped him to his home in safety. That cost Great Britain twenty-five million dollars, and made General Napier Lord Napier of Magdala.

"That was a great thing for a great country to do—a country that has an eye that can see all across the ocean, all across the land, away up to the mountain heights, and away down to the darksome dungeon, one subject of hers out of her thirty-eight millions of people, and then has an arm strong enough and long enough to stretch across the same ocean, across the same lands, up the same mountain heights, down to the same dungeon, and then lift him out and carry him to his own country and friends.

"In God's name, who would not die for a country that will do that?"

Aye, who would not! The British Isles have answered with an alacrity and enthusiasm unmistakable; the colonies, great and small, have spoken with equal clearness; it seems to some of us who have had dreams of Imperial Federation that our aspirations are about to be realized, and that their fulfilment will be well worth the cost. But, however that may be, every true British subject will earnestly desire the speedy and complete triumph of

THE SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN.