

But when war does come and men do their duty he would give them full acclaim. This he has set forth in the epilogue to the "Charge of the Heavy Brigade";

"—he needs must fight
To make true peace his own,
He needs must combat might with might
Or Might would rule alone;
And who loves war for war's own sake
Is fool, or crazed, or worse;
But let the patriot-soldier take
His meed of fame in verse.

It should be noted that Tennyson nearly always refers to England, seldom to Britain. Thus, Wellington the Irishman is spoken of as "England's greatest son" who "never lost an English gun.

In "The Defence of Lucknow" he begins

"Banner of England, not for a season, O banner of Britain hast thou
Floated in conquering battle or flapt to the battle cry!"

but he adds

"And ever upon the topmost roof our banner of England blew."

After the escape of the Queen from assassination in 1862, Tennyson wrote "Hands All Round." Let me quote the second verse:

"To all the loyal hearts who long
To keep our English Empire whole,
To all our noble sons, the strong
New England of the southern pole!
To England under Indian skies,
To those dark millions of her realm,
To Canada whom we love and prize
Whatever statesmen hold the helm.
Hands all round;
God the traitor's hope confound,
To this great name of England drink
My friends
And all her glorious Empire, round and round."