

Each of Great Britain's distant possessions contributes in some degree to the needs or luxuries of the motherland, and receives in return the products of her looms and factories. Each looks back with pride upon the struggles of the British race for freedom and makes her own the treasures of literature in the mother tongue. On every sea the flag of England is the pledge of safety and protection. By many gracious words and deeds Queen Victoria,



during her long reign, showed that she bore a mother's love to her distant subjects, while King Edward has treated colonial statesmen and colonial troops in such a way as to make them feel that he is not only the sovereign to whom they owe allegiance, but the warm and sympathizing friend of every part of the great empire over which he rules.

Whether the genius of statesmen will be successful in forging new bonds of empire or not, there are not wanting proofs of the strength of the old ties of love and loyalty. In speaking of Nova Scotia, we have seen that colonial soldiers of the middle of last century were ready to shed their blood for the mother country. In the war of 1812 and in the rebellions of 1837, 1871 and 1885, Canadians proved themselves prepared to die in defence of Britain's flag. In 1884 Canadian boatmen helped to convey British troops when they vainly went to the relief of Gordon at Khartoum, and General Kitchener proved the value of Canadian engineers in the Soudanese war.

In 1899 Great Britain declared war against the republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. As time went on it became evident that nothing but the complete conquest of the