

municate their dread to tribes more remote. Very soon, indeed, no independent savages would be left to trouble us, all being reduced under the rule of Britain, France, Russia, or some other civilized power. Free and benighted barbarians may be turned into British subjects by very short, cheap, and easy methods. A mere formal display of force, the appearance of a few gunboats in a harbour or river will make a beginning, and the rest of the work may be done to suit the advance of cultivation, by an armed police force gradually spreading its fortified stations back from the coast and along the river highways. The proposed East African Company may safely build its railway to the central lakes as soon as the British flag has been hoisted opposite Zanzibar. Here and there a rough tribe may compel a petty war like that with the Ashantis. But from the beginning the peaceful pagans of Papua, Borneo, and the Soudan will be the obedient friends of their English deliverers from Sulu pirates and Fellata marauders. The cost of consolidating a larger and more compact British Empire by conquest of savage African and Asiatic countries would, therefore, make no serious addition to the expenses of their Governments. And even the half-savage countries of Central and Southern America would not probably be so foolish as to add to their debts by futile resistance; Mexico perhaps excepted. But Mexico has so much easily tangible wealth under ground, that she would in a few years hardly feel the burdens of a war of conquest, even if it had cost as much as the Abyssinian expedition. Nowhere would the industry evoked by British maintenance of order and enforcement of obligations be crowned with more magnificent results. But everywhere the industrious classes would make us welcome, and everywhere, in some degree at least, the final and not long delayed result of inclusion in the British Empire would be profit to the people of the locality, profit to the whole people of the Empire, profit to the whole of mankind.