

had always been the law. Nevertheless in the face of Magna Charta the King claimed the right to put a man in prison and keep him there and give no reason; and the claim was sustained by a cringing Court. Then began a new struggle, lasting 464 years, through the Plantagenet, the Tudor, and into the Stuart line, from Magna Charta to 1679. During all those centuries, the King laid his hand upon men and cast them into prison. Three hundred years after the Charter eleven Judges filed a protest against imprisonment by order of nobler men; but they admitted that Elizabeth might send men to prison at her own will. The fight went on and a later Court held that the order of Charles I. was enough to deprive a man of his liberty; and men like John Hampden looked out from behind prison bars. Still the fight went on until in the second parliament after the Restoration, in 1679, the English people, again in possession of their government, "declared that not even the King's order could stand against the writ of *habeas corpus*. When the writ of *habeas corpus* was mentioned in our constitution in 1789, it was not defined; it needed no definition. The makers of the constitution knew what this bulwark of their liberty had cost; but we do not teach it to American youth.

Americans do know that we fought the American Revolution with "no taxation without representation" as our leading war-cry, but they never think of the struggle of the English people through many centuries to settle it that they should not be taxed except by law which they had a hand in making. Yet without the example of that fight before them our Revolutionary fathers would never have thought of raising objection to the Stamp Act and the Tea Tax. Americans do not realize that when, five hundred years after the Conqueror, Henry VIII., in 1525, without law, levied a tax of one-tenth of every man's substance, and when the people rich and poor cursed the King's Minister, Cardinal Wolsey, as "the subverter of their laws and liberties" and rose in insurrection, and when Henry, bull-dog though he was, had to back down and pay back, the English people were in the midst of a battle which never ended until Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown.

Here we find the man not afraid to stand alone—to make the one-man fight. Twenty years later Henry called for voluntary