

representatives which makes possible the holding-down of many by one. Without it, there might be required almost as many Tommy Atkinses as there are natives to be held. That this *sahib quality* has been widely furnished, that it does wonderful work, I can stoutly testify. I can also testify that it is not wise to have *one* solitary sahib in Zeila, as was the case when I went thence into Africa. Only two were at Adis Abeba, one of these leaving with me. Only one at a frontier post near the eastern border of the Soudan. Only forty white men at Khartoum in June, 1900. (The smallness of this number was a surprise, even to those who counted noses at my suggestion.) One only, as related in these pages, at Kashgar; and so in many a lost spot. Then suddenly, because the one man is overworked (as I saw at Zeila), there comes a war which might have been avoided had there been time to get into the hinter-land. There would be time to feel the country ahead of one, as I know had not been, could not be, done on the Abyssinia-Soudan frontier. Need one say anything further as to the fatal lack of good men before and during the great Boer war? Not every white man has the *sahib quality*. That is the important thing. So it is that the ever-growing demands of administration, and the ever-growing demands of a new competition in commerce, run almost beyond the output even of the mighty womb which has sent its sons to girdle the world.

A conservation of the British Empire seems to me a matter of maximum importance to all the world. That it should be conserved, it must, I think, be conservative. The raid into Tibet I believe to have