**Rudyard Kipling    
  
"Danegeld"**

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| **It is always a temptation to an armed and agile nation**  **To call upon a neighbour and to say:**  **"We invaded you last night — we are quite prepared to fight,**  **Unless you pay us cahs to go  away".**  **And that is called asking for Danegeld,**  **And the people who ask it explain**  **That you've only to pay them the Danegeld**  **And then you'll get rid of the Dane!**  **It is always a temptation to a rich and lazy nation**  **To puff and look important and to say: —**  **"Though we know we should defeat you,**  **we have not the time to meet you.**  **We will therefore pay you cash to go away".**  **And that is called paying the Danegeld;**  **But we've proved it again and again,**  **That if once you have paid him the Danegeld**  **You never get rid of the Dane.**  **It is wrong to put temptation in the path of any nation,**  **For fear they should succumb and go away;**  **So when you are requested to pay up or be molested,**  **You will find it better policy to say: —**  **"We never pay any-one Danegeld,**  **No matter how trifling the cost;**  **For the end of that game is oppression and shame,**  **And the nation that plays it is lost!"** |