

But it is not her political influence, it is not the fact that under her beneficent rule, there has been an expansion of the Empire, greater than any that men have seen before—it is nothing of this kind that has made the motherless peoples mourn with a deeply felt, widespread grief, such as has never been in all the history of the world. What is it then ?

If I had to sum up in a single phrase the secret of Queen Victoria's life, I should do it in the words which a bold monk addressed to a Pope of Rome in the middle of the 12th century, when he told him that his elevation meant "*non dominium, sed officium.*" not sovereignty, but duty. A paramount sense of duty was one of the foremost features in the Queen's character, a sense of duty to her subjects which had its origin and its inspiration in her sense of duty to her God.

This high sense of duty kept her from yielding to a temptation, before which many in far less exalted positions have fallen. I mean the temptation to use her influence and power for personal and selfish ends. If ever man or woman acted up to the great