

and confidence. What His Majesty well calls an "irreparable loss" has befallen Christendom ; but the Ruler of all the nations still holds sway, and if we seek his guidance, we shall not seek in vain. It is not by the outward pageantry of mourning, appropriate as we feel it to be, but by a life of more earnest purpose and more exalted character that we shall best show our reverent love for Queen Victoria. For she being dead, yet speaketh ; and as the wide Empire over which she ruled enters upon the tasks of another century, she is calling us to put away everything which is vile and valueless ; to be sober in our joys and heroic in our sorrows ; to be at peace with all men as far as lieth in us ; to seize with ready insight the best opportunities which life affords ; to succour the weak, and guide the erring, and bring the angel of pity to darkened homes and careworn, broken hearts ; to find our best inspiration in the wisdom which cometh from above ; amid the insolence of evil passions, and the overmastering lust of gain to prove that the destiny of man is not measured by the seen and temporal ; to rise to the stature of moral greatness, and learn, through all the shifting scenes of earth, to bear about with us everywhere the marks of the Lord Jesus. This, it seems to me, is the message which comes from behind the veil. And as long as we listen to it, the dead Queen will live again not only in the personal immortality which is now her rich and inalienable guerdon, but in the diffused beneficence which her memory inspires, in the sweeter and more pacific conduct of the nations, in the spread of God's evangel over all the earth, in the homage which time will only deepen, because it shows itself perpetually in the ungrudging service of pure and upright hearts.

