

between herself and the beings of a higher world:—herself the very SOURCE of all the innumerable streams of honour, rank, and distinctions, which mark out the divisions of society, and yet (like other streams) which really unite these divisions in the vast complicated social surface of our Empire? All worthless—worthless! All at once vanished like the mist of morning, or as a dream when one awaketh, when from the secret throne whereon sits the Almighty Governor of all worlds came the sentence, in the words of the Text:—

“REMOVE THE DIADEM AND TAKE OFF THE CROWN.”

Then, like the lowliest of earth, like the poorest of the poor, *like one of ourselves*, she had to strip off all her robes of State, and to take with her naked soul to the other world but one possession, one gift of her people.

My Brethren, we are paying it here to-day for a new monarch. At this moment all over the world millions are paying it for King Edward VII. We have been paying it, most of us, all our lives for Queen Victoria. It is the tribute of PRAYER. Yes. She for whom year after year, week after week, day after day, for these past 64 years, prayers have risen to the throne of Heaven,—She for whose temporal and eternal welfare, Sunday by Sunday, ten thousand ministers of Christ have offered the incense of their own and their peoples' supplication—She is no longer the subject of prayer in our churches. But let us hope and believe that She has taken with her the fruits of all those prayers. It was just at the beginning of her long and glorious reign (I cannot forbear reminding you) that the long disused and neglected “Daily Morning” and “Daily Evening” Prayer of the