

us on earth, be it long or short, can never be quite as the past ?

What has happened to effect this wonderful mysterious change ?—this universal difference in our sensations of life,—this distressing shock to the minds of men everywhere ? My Brethren, it is in one word,

DEATH.

But it is the death of no common mortal. The inheritor of the throne of over a thousand years, whose words and deeds, comings and goings, have day by day been minutely recorded in our newspapers, as far as they could be possibly known, and at times only imagined,—this Monarch descended from King Alfred, and who had become during 64 years almost a part of our daily lives has passed away to her fathers !

Death busy as usual with mankind, reading his lessons hourly to living men, has proved his terrible power with the very highest Personage in the world. He shows how true is the statement that he is indeed "*the last enemy that shall be destroyed*," and that no Rule, no Authority, no Dominion on earth, (however widely recognized) shall interfere with his supremacy,—save and except that of the Omnipotent One, "*Who through death hath destroyed him that had the power of death*."

Alas, Brethren, of what avail was it that our great and gracious Monarch, the Queen of all our hearts as well as of our institutions political and religious ;—of what avail was it that by the Constitution of our Country She sat on the very apex of the summit of the first social system in this world,—with no recognized dignity