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"The Great White Queen."

"Thro' all this tract of years
Wearing the white flower of a blameless life."

THE Great White Queen lies still in death, and the Empire she mothered is bowed to the earth with grief. In the past days pæans of praise have been raised, extolling her virtues, her greatness, and her goodness, her power and potency, and above all things, how she loved and was beloved. Other reigns may have been as glorious, but no Sovereign has ever won the ardent affection of the nations over whom she ruled so completely as Victoria, Queen and Empress—"Queenie," as the dusky denizens of her tropical climes, adapting her title to suit their euphonious language, always called her. To all her peoples she was, and will for ever remain, the "Great White Queen," the embodiment of power and of purity. The dignity with which she wielded her sceptre, the powerful mind she brought to bear upon the affairs of State—these were queenly attributes, indeed—but it will be in remembering her simplicity of Life, her love of Truth, her sympathy with poverty and with suffering, that she will live for ever in the heart of the British Nation as its best Belovéd.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)