

# King George VI : A Swiss Tribute

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the like of which can only be due to the departed ruler of a great nation and can never be witnessed in a small Republic like Switzerland. The speaker contrasted this pomp with the personal modesty of King George, stressed his outstanding devotion to duty and emphasized in particular his great faith and constancy as a Christian Gentleman. Pasteur Reverdin said that no one knew better than the late King that, if He was to rule wisely and well, this could only be done by himself seeking guidance, strength and power from the Most High. The love of His subjects all over the globe was the best proof of how well He had succeeded in his great, noble and arduous task, which He so faithfully performed right to the end.

After this uplifting sermon, the last two verses of the previous Hymn were sung and then Pfr. von Fischer ascended the Pulpit and announced as his text: St. John, Chapter 11, verses 25/26. "Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die." The preacher enlarged on this beautiful text of hope and consolation. He said that, as the Swiss Colony in London had truly shared the grief and sorrow this country felt for its departed Sovereign, so also did they share the hope and conviction that His noble life would find its true reward in His reunion with His Maker. The Sermon ended with the special prayer that was being offered in all English Churches and Chapels that day for Her Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. During the offertory the congregation was asked to sing the late King's favourite Hymn: "Abide with me", which was done with fervour, and

after another Organ Solo, the Lord's Prayer was said in unison.

Finally, the Benediction was pronounced, bringing this great and impressive Memorial Service to a fitting close.  
W.D.

### KING GEORGE VI. A Swiss Tribute.

We share your sorrow as with solemn toll  
Your well-loved King is carried to his grave.  
His greatness lay in being duty's slave;  
To serve his People was his constant goal.

Not of his seeking was the Kingly role  
But, being chosen, he came forth and gave  
His all. With modest charm, painstaking, brave,  
He reigned, and in his task put heart and soul.

Selfless and good, such will in history  
On this beloved King the verdict be,  
On England's throne no finer has been seen  
For, King or not, he was a gentleman.—

Now will by worthy hands what he began  
Be nobly carried on: Long live the Queen!

J.J.F.S.

(This poem was written a week before the Funeral but the MSS went astray in the post and reached us too late for the last issue. Ed.)

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