

- ✗ The last few years of Schreiner's life were marked by ill-health and an increasing sense of isolation. Despite this, she
- ✗ still engaged in politics and was determined to make her mark on a new constitution, especially through a work like
- ✗ *Closer Union*. In this polemic, she argued for more rights not only for blacks but also for women. She also joined the newly founded Cape Branch of the Women's Enfranchisement League in 1907, becoming its vice-president. However,
- ✗ she refused to lend her support to it any longer when other branches wished to exclude black women from the vote

Final days

When *Woman and Labour* was finally published in 1911, Schreiner was severely ill, her asthma worsened by attacks of angina. Two years later, she sailed alone to England for treatment, but was trapped there by the outbreak of World War I. During this time, her primary interest was in pacifism – she was in contact with Gandhi and other prominent activists like Emily Hobhouse and Elizabeth Maria Molteno – and she started a book on war, which was abbreviated and published as *The Dawn of Civilisation*. This was the last book she was to write. After the war, she returned home to the Cape, where she died in her sleep in a boarding house in 1920. She was buried later in Kimberley. After the death of her husband, Samuel Cronwright, her body was exhumed, and along with her baby, dog and husband, she was reburied atop Buffelskop mountain, on the farm known as Buffelskloek, near Cradock, in the Eastern Cape.

Selected works

- *The Story of an African Farm*, 1883 (as "Ralph Iron")
- *Dreams*, 1890
- *Dream Life and Real Life*, 1893
- *The Political Situation in Cape Colony*, 1895 (with S. C. Cronwright-Schreiner)
- *Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland*, 1897
- *An English South African Woman's View of the Situation*, a critique on the Transvaal difficulty from the pro-Boer position, 1899
- *A Letter on the Jew*, 1906
- *Closer Union: a Letter on South African Union and the Principles of Government*, 1909
- *Woman and Labour*, 1911
- *Thoughts on South Africa*, 1923
- *Stories, Dreams and Allegories*, 1923
- *From Man to Man*, 1926
- *Undine*, 1929

Audio book

- *Story of an African Farm* (https://archive.org/details/story_african_farm_1004_librivox)

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"In an far off world"

See also

- *Karel Schoeman* a Schreiner authority; article includes a list of works, referring to those on Schreiner and South African history for expert context; the article contains references as well to several other authorities on South Africa who have published on Schoeman, experts on the literature, culture, history and people of the country for even wider context
- *Olive Schreiner Prize* - award named in her honour

References