

he was forced to say "aye" to the question as to whether it was a breach of privilege. He did not speak long, but he said much. His words seemed to flow as easily and as melodiously as a brook in summer heat; his delivery was slow and serene, his manner dignified, yet simple and taking. A noble scene indeed, and worthy a painter's brush or an artist's pencil! He is eighty-three and his hair is snowy white, but his figure is erect, his cheeks are almost rosy, and his eye flashes with the brilliance of a sparkling diamond. As one gazes at him and hears the music of his voice and the sonorous melody of his periods, one feels proud to be of a nation that has produced such a genius, such a mighty intellect, such magnetic power, such a Christian man.

Then follows Mr. Balfour, the clever leader of the Opposition. He is tall and spare, and rather effeminate in appearance from having his thin and scanty hair parted in the middle. His ordinary attitude during debate is that of a lounge; his legs are always stretched out as far as they will reach, and his hands are deep down in his trousers' pockets. His words are distinct and well enunciated, but his voice seems to come from his throat and not from his lungs. His general appearance, his manner and his reasoning all suggest the scholar, logician and thinker rather than the man of affairs. One would imagine that he could see into the very heart of any subject and clear away from it the net-work of specious arguments and entangling details thrown about it to mystify the unwary. Next comes Sir Vernon Harcourt to give a brief exhibition of the sledge-hammer blows he knows so well how to administer. Finally, Mr. Chamberlain throws in his weight with Mr. Gladstone. This carries the last waverer, and the motion is unanimously adopted. Mr. Chamberlain is tall and clean-shaven; if he were anybody else his eye-glass would make one think him a "snob." After Mr. Gladstone he was far and away the readiest and most fluent speaker I heard. He never lacks for a word, his thoughts are tersely and simply expressed, and his manner is easy and pleasing. I think I am not far wrong in adding as a final touch that, as I can judge from what I have seen and heard of English politics, Mr. Chamberlain is the best hated man in the House.