

at eighty-five. Though men of many words, they were men of few deeds, and lived free from those excitements which hasten death.

VI. Miscellaneous.*

1. ALONG THE LINE.

A. D. 1812—1866.

Steady be your beacon's blaze
 Along the line! along the line!
 Freely sing dear Freedom's praise
 Along the line! along the line!
 Let the only sword you draw
 Bear the legend of the law,
 Wield it less to strike than awe,
 Along the line! along the line!

Let them rail against the land
 Beyond the line! beyond the line!
 When its heroes forth it sends,
 Along the line! along the line!
 On the field or in the camp
 They shall tremble at your tramp,
 Men of the old Norman stamp,
 Along the line! along the line!

Wealth and pride may rear their crests,
 Beyond the line! beyond the line!
 They bring no terror to our breasts,
 Along the line! along the line!
 We have never bought or sold
 Afric's sons with cruel gold,
 Conscience arms the free and bold,
 Along the line! along the line!

Steadfast stand, and sleepless ward,
 Along the line! along the line!
 Great the treasures that you guard
 Along the line! along the line!
 By the babes whose sons shall be
 Crowned in far futurity,
 With the laurels of the free,
 Stand your guard along the line!

—Hon. T. D. McGee.

2. THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

It is so long since Her Majesty took part in this grand ceremonial that we think it will be gratifying to our readers, especially in the schools, to give the graphic account of the recent opening of the great Council of the Nation, from the *London Times*. We have, however, very greatly to abridge the elaborate description of the august ceremony from the *Times*.

The opening of Parliament by the Queen in person is always an event of deep interest to the British people. The affection and respect in which Her Majesty is held by all classes of her subjects adds a tenderer grace to the ceremonial than ever adorned it in former periods of English history. The last time that Her Majesty appeared in the House of Lords in all the paraphernalia of her regal office was now five years ago. On that occasion the Prince Consort stood by her side, and, as it then seemed to the eyes of the people, in the full maturity and strength of his manhood and of his mild and mellowed wisdom, the visible embodiment of the private happiness of her home and the public felicity of her reign. Since that day a generation of schoolboys and students has grown into manhood. But the sixth Parliament of Victoria saw the Queen's face no more. The saddest bereavement that can befall a woman fell upon the loftiest and most beloved head in the realm, and drove Her Majesty into seclusion, and almost into solitude, and when it was publicly made known that the Parliament of 1866, the seventh of Her Majesty's reign, would be opened by the Queen in person, a feeling of satisfaction concentrated upon the proceedings of yesterday a far greater amount of affectionate interest than any of her previous appearances in public had elicited.

It was no wonder that under such circumstances—rendered still more auspicious by bright skies and balmy airs, more like those of

May than of February—crowds filled the line of procession through which the Queen was to make her way, and that housetop and balcony, as well as pavement, swarmed with loyal multitudes anxious not alone to see their Sovereign, but to welcome her back to the performance of that dignified part in the great drama of Government, which she had consented to forego under the pressure of a grief with which every one sympathised.

Yesterday afternoon the business of the new Parliament was commenced by a speech from the Queen, who, for the first time since the death of the Prince Consort, visited Westminster for the purpose of addressing the members of the House of Lords and Commons. Her Majesty left Windsor and drove from the Castle to the Great Western terminus, where a special train had been provided in readiness for the trip to town. The royal party left the station at 10.35 a.m., amid the royal salutation of the crowd, and arrived at Paddington at 11.20, after a splendid journey of about 35 minutes.

As the Queen was about to step into the royal equipage a perfect ovation ensued, and the vaulted iron roof of the immense station rang again as the mass of spectators repeatedly and enthusiastically gave vent to their satisfaction in British cheers. In a few moments the royal cortege swept from the station, the Queen's carriage being escorted by a guard of honour composed of a squadron of carbineers on its way to Buckingham Palace.

As early as ten o'clock immense crowds were wending their way in the direction of Westminster, and many had already stationed themselves near the several approaches to the house. That a cordial welcome was intended was manifest in every part by the preparations for the accommodation of the lovers of sight-seeing. In Parliament-street most of the balconies in front of the houses were dressed with crimson and green cloth, the seats provided for the visitors being covered with the former. A spacious gallery was erected outside the Chapel Royal, and not a yard was lost in the Privy-gardens where a view of the procession could be obtained. In the New Palace-yard the crowd was immense, the enclosure there adjoining the cab-rank being literally filled with stands and substantial galleries of every description. In several places flags were hoisted. The assemblage in the park perhaps was greater than on any former occasion, the scene from the Horse Guards to Buckingham Palace presenting one mass of human beings. In anticipation of the arrival of her Majesty the railings outside the palace were besieged with spectators; and when at half-past eleven a cry was heard of "The Queen is coming," a general shout was heard from the multitude. The procession soon after reached the gate, and the cheering, then renewed with even more vigor, continued till the royal cortege had passed inside. The procession, which was very simple, was headed with one of her Majesty's outriders, followed by the Queen in a private carriage, drawn by two horses; then came two more private carriages containing members of the royal family, and a brougham; the whole being accompanied by an escort of the Royal Blues. The scene along the whole line of route was very animated. When the time arrived for the procession to leave Buckingham Palace the anxiety of the people became intense; and during its progress through the park there was a universal display of loyal affection towards her Majesty.

At noon a long line of carriages extended from Pall Mall to the Peers' entrance of the Palace of Westminster, most, if not all, of which were occupied by ladies in full evening costume. The only peculiarity in the appearance of the House was the Throne, which was covered, and had all its ornaments concealed, by something thrown loosely over it. It was no ordinary covering, but Her Majesty's robe of state, which she usually wore on all great occasions of ceremonial, but which she could not be persuaded to wear on this. The robe was there, but the heart to put it on was wanting. The kindly instincts of the British people will but see in this little incident a new proof of gentle womanliness on the part of the chief lady of the land.

The House filled very slowly, both floor and galleries, with fair visitors, and converted for the time being the most solemn seat of legislative wisdom in the world, into a *parterre* of human beauty. A few Peers escorted their wives or daughters to seats, and then retired to the robing-room, whence they speedily emerged, engirt with the scarlet robes and the white cross-bands which indicate their rank in the aristocratic hierarchy. Every now and then a newcomer into the seats reserved for the *corps diplomatique* excited a little burst of attention, to be succeeded by a new sensation of curiosity among the ladies. Soon the Judges, preceded by the venerable Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, entered and took their seats opposite to the woolsack, introducing by their presence a new element of colour into the mosaic which presented itself to the eyes of visitors in the gallery. Scarcely had the Judges seated themselves when the Lord High Chancellor of England, preceded by the Mace-bearer, entered by the door to the left of the Throne and took his seat on the woolsack, with his face towards the House and his back to the Throne. His Lordship's appearance was the signal for

* NOTE TO TEACHERS.—FRIDAY READINGS FROM THE JOURNAL. Our chief motive in maintaining the "Miscellaneous" department of the Journal is to furnish teachers with choice articles selected from the current literature of the day, to be read in the schools on Fridays, when the week's school-work is finished, as a means of agreeable recreation to both pupil and teacher. Several teachers have followed this plan for several years with most gratifying success.