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The Day of Inspection.

OCTOBER 17, 1885.

BY THE LATE MAJOR MALAN.



Vol 2

HAPPIER memory, the brighter side of the Judgment, arises out of the Queen's inspection of the Crimean army on its return from the war in 1856. The army was assembled at Aldershot. We paraded one morning in pouring rain, and it rained for three hours, until we were all drenched to the skin. (Beloved, what does it matter how much it rains now? We shall soon see our King, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.) It was doubted

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whether the Queen would come out ; but she would not disappoint her soldiers, so out she came at the right time in a close carriage. (Some- many Christians, alas! doubt whether our King will come; but he will not disappoint us. He says, "Surely I come quickly;" and we look up to him through the driving rain, and say, "Even so, come. Lord Jesus.")

Her Majesty went down our lines, and then those officers who had been under fire, and chosen soldiers from among the noncommissioned officers and men, were marched up by regiments, and formed into three sides of a square, round the Queen's carriage. The fourth side of the square was formed by the princes and nobility of England. At first we could not see her, for the carriage was closed. But while we were forming up, the clouds burst above our heads, the blue sky and the sun appeared, the carriage was opened, and then the Queen stood among us.

She thanked us for our courage and endurance, and bade us welcome home. She thanked God for having preserved us and brought us back. The first words from her lips produced an effect on those who were gathered round her. They were all tried soldiers; every one of them had been in battle. Their dangers were now over, and they were safe at home. From their sovereign's lips they received thanks and praise.

Believers in Christ our Lord ! the day is soon coming when this scene will be repeated in the glory of God. The King will