



CHAPTER 3
THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE
(LORD ALFRED TENNYSON)

NOTES

SUBSTANCE

The “*Charge of the Light Brigade*” has been written by the English poet *Alfred Tennyson*, in his response to a battle during the *Crimean war (1853-1855)*. The poem opens with the light Brigade’s leader commanding hundreds of his soldiers to keep riding towards the lowland until they reach the battlefield. They are surrounded by enemy cannons, but this six hundred men ride on with courage into the ‘*jaws of death*’, ‘*the mouth of hell*’. They flash their sabres and slash at the gunners, six hundred men charging on an entire army while the rest of the world wonders at their deeds. And the world also wonders the achievement of those six hundred brave soldiers.

POETIC DEVICES USED IN THE POEM

Repetition:

‘Half a league’
‘Rode the six hundred’
‘Forward the Light Brigade’
‘All the world wondered’
‘Cannons’

Alliteration:

‘Storm’d at with shot and shell’
“Theirs but to do and die”
“All the world wondered”
“While horse and hero fell”

Personification:

“The mouth of hell”
“Jaws of death”
