

Compare and  
contrast tennysons  
the charge of the light  
brigade and wallaces  
war e...



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We are doing coursework to show the difference between two poems about war. The poems are the Charge Of The Light Brigade by Alfred Lord Tennyson and War by Edgar Wallace. Edgar Wallace who had first hand experience of war as a medical orderly thinks that war is a horrible thing, he thinks there is no reason for the violence and the suffering.

But Alfred Lord Tennyson thinks it is a duty for every man to do when called upon he believes that it is for king and country he believes that if you die in war you are a hero but Wallace believes that you are a fool for dying and making your wife and kids mourn over your death. Most people see it as one or the other it is hard to believe both. The charge of the light brigade was a poem, which was directly focusing on the heroic side of war which is excellent if you want the battle to be remembered as great battle I would reckon that most of the men in the Crimean war would believe in, king and country which is in my opinion the most valiant thing to, but not the most sensible. They believe it is their duty to fight to save their country. Alfred Tennyson's background was that he was a famous poet he was the Queen's appointed poet.

He had no experience of battle personally. He just read Russell's article about the battle in the Times newspaper report. So he did not see any blood or death. His poem was over the Crimean war from 1854-1856 the war was over Russia becoming too powerful because they were going to expand south into Turkey so France and Britain tried to stop them. The poem tells us about the battle of Balaclava, where the light cavalry brigade were sent to stop them they were sent by mistake up the middle of the valley surrounded by cannons to fight the Russians at the far end.

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Only 200 of the 600 lived to tell the tale. Stanza one in poem begins by saying half a league, half a league, half a league onward this gets you into the rhythm of the poem and it reflects by sound like the horses hooves going in to battle. In the next line it states all in the valley of death which was said in psalm 23 those words add seriousness to the poem and makes you think that this may not be a happy ending. Then it says forward the light brigade! Charge for the guns which is a touch to dramatic and would not have happened in the battle, it was just the immediacy of the moment, it was just like an heroic cry from an old legend. This bit was not in the times it was just made up.

Then at the end it said rode the 600, which repeats its self for a while. The first sentence in stanza two was forward the light brigade, which just was repeating the rousing cry from the first stanza. After that it said, was there a man dismayed not though a soldier knew some one had blundered, theirs not to make reply, there's not to reason why, there's but to do and die all this means that the men knew somebody made a mistake but they knew they should not question their officers they just done what they are told they would have had death and glory in their heads when they were going to it. He made the officers better of than they were. Tennyson thought he had read that the officers blundered in Russells report but he didn't Russell must have implied it though the text. Then it repeats both into the valley of death and rode the 600 which carries on the rhythm of the poem and it reflects the sound of hooves again.

In the start of stanza 3 they are completely surrounded cannons in the poem it says cannon to the right of them, cannon to the left of them, Cannon in <https://assignbuster.com/compare-and-contrast-tennysons-the-charge-of-the-light-brigade-and-wallaces-war-essay/>

front of them, cannon to, reflects the sound of the cannon fire, and it is very dramatic. Then it states volleyed and thundered, thundered is an onomatopoeic word, which means the word reflects the sound of the cannons. Then it says stormed with a shot and shell, this uses lots of s words to make it sound like the cannon ball are flying past them. Then it says into the jaws of death, into the mouth of hell, which is a metaphor, which means they were not really going into the jaws of death it was a figure of speech. It just meant they were on their way to die but in Russells report it said into open iron mouths.

Then it just repeated rode the 600. In the start of stanza 4 it said flashed sabres bare, flashed as they turned to air, the flashed is repeated and it is onomatopoeic which means the word sounds like what it does. In Russells report it says halos of flashing steel above their heads. Sabring the gunners there, charging an army, while the world wondered it was showing how outnumbered they were and the whole world wondered meant what was going to happen and the world drove them on.

All this has sounded like an Arthurian legend the fearless heroes, charging horses and shining swords. Then it said plunged in the battery smoke, right though the line they broke, reeled from the sabre stroke shattered and sundered all the words in that like plunged, broke, reeled, shattered and sundered all reflect violence its says a lot of s words this reflects the swinging of the swords. Then on the second last line it says then they rode back, then there was a dramatic pause, but not the six hundred so it has changed from rode the 600 to but not the 600. Stanza 5 there is cannons surrounded them again and the poem says cannon to the right of them, <https://assignbuster.com/compare-and-contrast-tennysons-the-charge-of-the-light-brigade-and-wallaces-war-essay/>

cannon to the left of them, cannon to the left of them, cannon behind them they were facing the same force on the retreat as on the advance, cannon to is making it sound like people are firing at them. Then half way though it, it says stormed with a shot and shell, white horse down and hero fell, white horse down and hero fell is a line from the olden days. Then it goes on to say they had fought so well, puts all the focus on survivors not those who were needlessly killed.

Then it talks about the jaws of death again, then it says left of the 600. Then on the last stanza it says when will their glory fade which is never it was rhetorical it was just main trying to focus on the honour not the death Then on the last line it says noble 600 which immortalises them forever and says we must remember the noble sarifice.