

# VANITY FAIR.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 6, 1869.

## MEN OF THE DAY.—No. I.

THE REV. FREDERICK TEMPLE, D.D., BISHOP DESIGNATE OF  
EXETER.

TO say that he has displayed ability in the free handling of religious subjects, and that he has nevertheless been made a Bishop, is to resume the whole of the case for and against Dr. Temple's nomination to the See of Exeter. Beyond this there is nothing certain. He may, as his enemies assert, be destitute of the abilities and qualities that a Bishop should have; he may, as his friends declare, be endowed with those abilities and qualities in an unwonted degree; whether it is or is not so can scarcely be decided until he has been tried in his new sphere. But the fact we do know is that in the sphere he is about to leave he has won the respect, and, what is more, the love of all those with whom he has had to do.

It should be observed that it is upon the free handling that the whole question turns. It has not been decided by any competent authority that there is anything contrary to the Established religion in Dr. Temple's contribution to "Essays and Reviews," nor even in the other articles which go to form that book. On the contrary, the only authority that has judged the matter has decided that there is no heresy at all in the work. There remains, then, but the question of the freedom with which religious subjects have been treated in it; and those who condemn or fear this, as inimical to religion, are naturally opposed to, just as those who approve it are pleased with, Dr. Temple's nomination. It is the old question of Authority against Free enquiry, and it is portentous enough that those who assume to be champions of the Protestant Church, which is founded upon a preference of the latter to the former, should now betray such impatience of it.

JEHU JUNIOR.