

MEN OF THE DAY. No. 350.

THE VERY REV. RICHARD WILLIAM CHURCH, M.A., DEAN OF
ST. PAUL'S.

HE was born seventy years ago, and went to Oxford, where he took a first-class in 1836, and was shortly after elected a Fellow of Oriel College. At this time Oriel College took the lead in Oxford, had Cardinal Newman for its most distinguished Fellow, and was in the forefront of what was called the Tractarian or Puseyite movement. Mr. Church intervened in the thick of the fight in 1845, when, as Proctor, he officially shielded Cardinal (then Mr.) Newman from his assailants—a service the Cardinal publicly acknowledged five-and-twenty years later by dedicating to him a volume of sermons. In 1853 Mr. Church was appointed Rector of Whatley; but he had always been a blind and ardent worshipper of Mr. Gladstone, and was by him brought to London in 1871 to be appointed Dean of St. Paul's with £2000 a-year. He is a ripe scholar, a thoughtful and graceful writer, a moderate preacher, popular with the clergy, retiring in manner, a staunch friend, an unsparing controversialist, and a promoter of the popularity of St. Paul's Cathedral. He has declined a Bishopric.