

STATESMEN. No. 743.

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THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

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RANDALL THOMAS DAVIDSON became the son of a Scot three-and-fifty years ago; and having been taught at Harrow, and Trinity, Oxford, he went into the Church and attained what is in some ways the highest position that the world can offer to a Churchman. For while he is full of honours, he was also privileged to be for long in very near attendance on Queen Victoria; whose Clerk of the Closet he was for nearly ten years. While at Oxford he was the unfortunate victim of a shooting accident which kept him long from active work; yet at thirty he was Chaplain and Private Secretary to Archbishop Tait: and when he for six months had acted in the same capacities for Archbishop Benson, he was made Dean of Windsor by his Queen. Six years later he was consecrated Bishop of Rochester; whence he was presently transferred to Winchester. He is a very kindly, able, industrious Prelate of very winning manners, who has probably few enemies.

He has written much; and among other works has perpetrated a great "Life of Archbishop Tait."