

MEN OF THE DAY. No. 348.

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THE REV. CANON ROBINSON DUCKWORTH, D.D.

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THE son of a Liverpool merchant, and born nigh upon fifty years ago, Canon Duckworth, being a clever, nimble youth, was very properly sent to Oxford, and became a scholar of University College in 1853. He justified his removal from commercial to scholastic life by taking a first-class in classical honours, and by being elected in 1858 a Fellow of Trinity College. He then became a Master at Marlborough College, having for his chiefs first Dr. Cotton (afterwards Bishop of Calcutta), and then Dr. Bradley, the present Dean of Westminster. He returned to Oxford in 1860 as Tutor and Dean of Trinity College. Having succeeded so well at the University, he next essayed the Court, and with no less success. He was appointed Governor to Prince Leopold in 1867, and from that time became a very special favourite and very specially beloved in the domestic circle of the Royal Family. In three years' time he was made a Queen's Chaplain, and in 1875 a Canon of Westminster. He also became the Vicar of St. Mark's in St. John's Wood, and Honorary Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, whom he accompanied on his visit to India. He is a witty man and an excellent diner-out, full of clever sayings and amusing anecdotes. When he was at Oxford it was said of him, "The young women admire him, the middle-aged women adore him, "and all the old women want to have him for their son-in-law." But he is still a bachelor, and has the reputation of having left more than one heart-ache behind him in his career. He is not a great theologian, but he is a discreet man, full of the charity which covereth all things, and a most favourable example of the Court parson.