

MEN OF THE DAY. No. 481.

THE RIGHT REVEREND EDWARD KING, D.D., BISHOP OF LINCOLN.

THE second son of the late Archdeacon King, and the 106th Bishop of the total succession—the See having been founded at Dorchester, transferred to Sidnacester, restored to Dorchester, and only after the Conquest settled at Lincoln—he was born one-and-sixty years ago, and began from his earliest years to follow in his father's footsteps. He went to Oriel, and, having taken his degree, became for a space a Curate at Wheatley—his one parochial charge. Then he went to Cuddesdon as Chaplain, and presently became Principal of that Theological College, Canon of Christ Church and Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology at Oxford; in all which offices he acquitted himself so well and so zealously that five years ago he was most properly improved into a Bishop.

As Chaplain and Assistant Lecturer at Cuddesdon, he came into contact with the great preacher who has died this week; for Dr. Liddon was then Vice-Principal of the College. And for ten years he was the moving power of that Ritualistic centre, whence his influence gradually made itself felt throughout the Church. But having become a greater and a better-known power as he waxed greater and older, he was naturally unable to escape persecution; so that two years ago he began to be charged with divers heresies and idolatries, in respect to which he is now quietly awaiting judgment. Yet he is as broad in his mind as he is rigidly conservative in his Ritual. He is a courteous, kindly man, whose face, with its benignant, winning smile, is the fair index to his character; and withal, he is simple and very honest, though he has vainly contended before the Archbishop that being a Bishop he is not a Minister. He has a fine presence, a striking figure, and an engaging manner which is natural, and not clerically assumed; and he has been a good son to his mother. Men listen to him; women adore him; and children love him.

He is a power, not a fashion.