

MEN OF THE DAY. No. 94.

THE REV. HENRY WHITE, M.A.

NOT having been passed through one of the ancient Universities Mr. White has been looked upon by his clerical brethren as an unwarranted interloper in the fields of patronage. Nevertheless he has had some successes in the pastures which are fenced off against trespassers. Having in 1860 become appointed to the care of the eighty souls in the district of the Savoy Chapel he discovered a vocation for the ministry which won for him the support of his fellow-outsider Mr. Childers, who became a regular attendant upon his services. When therefore Mr. Speaker Denison needed a chaplain, a sufficiently strong support was forthcoming for Mr. White to procure his appointment with a salary of £400 a year. Upon the too sudden dissolution of Parliament and the consequent extinction of the succeeding Speaker Mr. White believed that he had discovered himself to be chaplain not to the Speaker but to the House of Commons; and he was hardly convinced to the contrary by being superseded, made Chaplain in Ordinary to the Royal Household and exhorted to relinquish all claims to any preferment. Nevertheless he is still a candidate for that recognition of his merits which has so far been withheld, and this with so much reason that the day which sees Mr. Childers Prime Minister may be near to that which makes Mr. White a canon. His facile sermons are only five-and-twenty minutes long and he is a "Royal Peculiar."