

MORLEY'S LIFE OF COBDEN.*

BY THE REV. SELBY JEFFERSON.



RICHARD COBDEN.



TWENTY-FIVE years ago the first edition of this life of Richard Cobden first appeared. Now, in its eleventh edition, it has reached a sale of nine thousand. Such popularity is, no doubt, largely accounted for by the literary charm of the work itself. But still more is it due to the remarkable personality of its living

author, and a growing interest in Free Trade.

It is given to few to unite such knowledge of world-wide history with accurate acquaintance with a special period as John Morley. Here, too, is all that subtle sympathy and keen, though kindly, analysis of the secret springs of character which is seen at its best in his late life of Mr. Gladstone. And now that he has visited our shores and everywhere met with warmest welcome, we turn with added interest to all things from his pen.

"He does not conceive it his task," he tells us in his preface, "to compile a polemical handbook" for fiscal con-

* "The Life of Richard Cobden." By John Morley. (Ninth thousand of the popular one-volume edition.) T. Fisher Unwin, Paternoster Square, London, England. Toronto: William Briggs.