

the soil in which the noxious plant has grown. They explain also the intensity which has been so striking a feature in the piety of its best and most truly representative men : an intense spirituality in a Rutherford, an Erskine and a McCheyne ; an intense vehemence of speech and of action in a Knox, a Chalmers, and an Edward Irving ; an intensity, sometimes associated with narrow and mistaken views, but always disdaining insincerity, and often as liberal as it was glowing. This quality has not been confined to any one class in the community, nor to any single phase of its religious life. It is peculiarly observable in the style of its pulpit oratory. Compare Wilberforce and Henry Melville, both dead, Liddon and Spurgeon, still living and active—perhaps the most outstanding names in the English pulpit during the present generation—with Chalmers, Guthrie, Candlish, Duff, Caird and Cairns, and who is not