

early stage, and the comparatively young assistant occupies the Bishop's Seat, as our acknowledged Head !

As we listen to Elisha's request, that a double portion of the gifts of the Spirit may be Elijah's legacy, we conclude well for the young prophet's future, and hope that he is the man for the day. Plainly, we say, he realises his position, and knows the power of prayer, by his asking his Master's prevalence with the Giver of every good and perfect gift for twice the zeal, twice the wisdom, twice the labours, and that he may be two-fold more useful.

Here is a beginning full of hope, and the end comes, and no one is disappointed. It was with him, as it was, and ever will be, "Ho that goeth forth, and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall, doubtless, come again, bringing his sheaves with him !" And so, after a ministry of more than sixty years, as Elisha closes his day, he can reckon up twice as many miracles wrought by his hands; had been more constantly among his people than his predecessor, and, therefore, a greater example, during a longer life and more extensively useful !

The mantle of the Prophet, as he ascends, coming down on his successor, is a sign of his being God's choice. With that mantle he wrought his first miracle. "Where is the Lord God of Elijah ?" and as the smitten waters parted hither and thither, they seemed to say, "He is here, still with thee; though Elijah be not here, the God of Elijah is !"

To day our Churches mourn, but not as those without hope. We weep over our loss, over him, who, after years of hard service, whilst this country was forty years younger than it is to day, has fought the fight, and kept the faith, and finished his course; and yet our tears may well be stanch'd.

The God of our late Bishop is here, with the Diocese he so loved, though he is taken from us !

And, a thought full of comfort it is, the prophecies which have gone before of his successor, foretell a future, at the least equally honourable, equally useful, with him who has fin-