

year past ; the memory of it will live for years to come, and the effects of it upon the Church, whether for good or evil, will remain when our generation has passed away. If we, on the one hand, admire the moderation and charity of the speakers, if we are warmed with hopes at the sight of noble laymen, of men of business, whose every hour is worth money to them, devoting their energies and time to what they honestly believe to be the true interests of the Church of God, yet at the same time we are chilled with the bitter recollection of the strife which summoned it together. Surely the days of the Marian persecutions have returned to England, when intolerance thus rears her head throughout the land ! It is with feelings of relief we turn to the re-opening of Chichester Cathedral, now that her beautiful spire, the only one which serves to remind Englishmen by sea as well as by land of their beloved Mother Church, has been once more raised from the ground, and now again bears testimony to the devoted love of Churchmen, and their willingness to spend their time and money in the service of their God. Seven* years and a half have passed since it fell, and involved in ruin the whole centre of the Cathedral : and now the noble spire stands again pointing up to heaven in the same proportions and beauty as of old. Once more again we gladly find a noble layman aiding the work with purse and head : to the Duke of Richmond and the Venerable Dean Hook, the restoration is chiefly due ; but not only to them, for it may be said that the whole county of Sussex responded nobly to the call for help, and may be congratulated on the spirit they have shown, and on the success they have achieved. Twice in the present century the men of the north county have raised their noble Minster from its ashes ; Litchfield and Hereford and other Cathedrals, have with no less liberality been restored and adorned, and now the men of Sussex have added one more to the long series of munificent undertakings, which have made this portion of the nineteenth century famous, so long as the world lasts, for its Church restorations. If the 14th was the Church building, the 19th was the Church restoring century, and the spire of Chichester Cathedral is one of its greatest trophies. And not only has the spire been rebuilt, but the interior of the Cathedral has been splendidly fitted up by the restoration of the old, and the addition of new work : so that the whole building is and will remain a proof, that in a money-gaining and mercenary age there is yet among Churchmen as noble a spirit of liberality, as that which, of old, studded "the Queen Island, which Englishmen love to call their home†," with noble Cathedrals, Churches, Colleges and Schools.

* See "The Guardian" for Nov. 20, 1867.

† Speech of Rev. Dr. Balch at Convocation of Bishop's College.