



Whitcomb Tombs, Day & Son, Ltd. 1903.

"ubi Crookes ibi lux"

VANITY FAIR.

LONDON, MAY 21, 1903.

MEN OF THE DAY:

No. DCCCLXXIX.

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, F.R.S.

BORN, full of scientific imagination, one-and-seventy years ago, he is now fuller than ever of it, his steps in Science having been sometimes really inspired. He began life inquiringly ; and at sixteen, after damaging much of the paternal furniture by acids and explosions, he was an active student in the Royal College of Chemistry ; since when he has done so much to advance the science of chemistry and physics that he needs no supporter. He invented the Radiometer ; he discovered Thallium and Radiant matter generally ; he evolved the Genesis of Elements, and founded *The Chemical News*. He is a past President of all our best scientific societies, and he has published many practical works • on many applied sciences ; so that he has earned many prizes and medals both at home and abroad. Without the Crookes Tube the Röntgen Rays were unknown ; and he has this week shown at the Royal Society his newest invention, the Spintharoscope ; by which the curious scintillations of the newest element, Radium, may be readily seen. Altogether, he is a very great Man of Science who has done much to benefit the world very practically, and yet has a perfectly open mind which instinctively leads him in the right direction. He is ashamed of none of his beliefs, and many of them, formed years ago, have been absolutely proved by the advance of science ; and it is not too much to say of him that he is *a* discoverer of great secrets that may lead us far into the Unknown.

He is a very straightforward, honest, simple man who believes in the truth ; yet has he most kindly, courteous manners.

Jehu Junior.