

warriors could ensure ; and recollect, as National Religion is made up of individual piety, as every citizen of the Empire either adds to or impairs the tone of the national spirit, every one of you is entrusted with a portion of your country's welfare, which your conduct either strengthens or betrays. Therefore I beseech you, examine yourselves this day, with that honesty of purpose, that straightforward candour, for which your national character is noted. Let each of you put this case before a bared conscience : " I know that righteousness has exalted my Nation : I boast of my birth as an English citizen,—what have I contributed to the treasury of Religion that secures the smile of God upon my country,—do I, an English colonist, fear God—do I honour His day—do I reverence His Sanctuary—do I love His Word—do I trust His promises and dread His wrath, or am I, as a careless Christian, insulting the mercy that shields my Father-land. If conscience tells you that you are an unfaithful steward of your Country's honour—that while loyal to your Queen, you are a traitor to your God, I appeal to your gratitude, to your sense of right : yea, Brother, I call to witness against you the sacred symbol of the Cross you this day wear upon your breast. With pity and sorrow I read your condemnation in the pious legend that encircles it—" *Sub hoc signo vinces.*" That sign and legend on your Banners may denote the PUBLIC PROFESSION of religion, made by your Society as a body ; but by each affixing the badge, with cross and motto, on your breasts, you each one declare, that you make the sign and watch-word YOUR PRIVATE RULE OF LIFE : and what do they mean ? Listen as I tell you the circumstances, probably known before, under which the heraldry of your badge and banner was originated, and then decide whether it tells a tale of encouragement, of reproof to yourselves.

The story runs, that more than 1500 years ago, a Roman Emperor, Constantine, was marching against a foe too mighty for him to subdue. As the shades of evening fell upon his army, he, yet in the darkness of Paganism, but pondering on the truths of Christ which then were agitating his nation, lifted up his soul to