

bors. She has made religion a pretext to start from. Thus showing us that now, as in times past, the sacred name which was given to bless and save men, has been made a stepping stone to purposes the most base, and a pretence to cover the most vile and selfish ends. Anti-Christ would still disguise himself as the Living and the True.

This war, which has been sounding in our ears for some time past, has a twofold claim on public attention in Canada, since it not only involves wide-spread European interests, which may be said to be general human interests, but also involves directly and immediately the interests of our mother country in particular. Great Britain is one of the high contending parties. As the patron and protector of the universal interests of man — freedom and civilization — she avows that she has engaged in this contest ; and we are “ earnestly exhorted ” as loving subjects, by royal proclamation, to give this day a special observance on account of this war. Hence the closed stores and warehouses in our city to-day, and the open churches. Here are the words of the Proclamation, as testified and promulgated, by his Excellency the Governor General :—

“ Know ye, that taking into our most serious consideration the great struggle in which we are now engaged for the defence of the liberties of our people and of the civilized nations of Europe, and considering the propriety of setting apart a day to be observed throughout our said Province as a day of humiliation and solemn prayer to Almighty God, for the success of our arms in the present war, and for the speedy attainment of a favorable and lasting peace, we have thought fit, by the advice of our Executive Council for our said Province, to issue this our