

C A P. II.

Of the Religious Orders of Knight-
hood in Christendom.

§ 1. **T**HE Grounds and Causes of founding Societies or *Knighthly Orders*, were several and different, tho' all terminated in one End. Among which, principally were these, *First*, A sincere Love to *Honour*, and therein chiefly to excite and promote *Vertue* by suitable Rewards; such was the Design of King *Arthur*, when he formed himself and other Martial Men into a Fellowship, which he stiled *Knights of the Round Table*. *Secondly*, To repress the Incurfions and Robberies of the *Saracens* and *Barbarians*, to vindicate the Oppressed, redeem the Enslaved, and to entertain and relieve Pilgrims and Strangers, which were Part of the Duties the *Knights Hospitallers* and *Templars*, &c. stood engag'd in. A *third* Reason was, To Fight in Defence of the Christian Faith, against Pagans and Infidels; to enlarge the Christian Territories, and promote the Service of the Catholick Church: And indeed their Zeal very much advanced Christianity. *Lastly*, When Sovereign Princes perceived themselves embroiled in Wars or dangerous Factions, the erecting such an Order or Society was, that they might by such a Tye restore Peace, quiet all Jealousies, unite Affections, and secure a lasting Friendship and powerful Assistance, both for their own and their Country's Safety. And to this End were Badges of several Orders devised, as Pledges of Remembrance to quicken and establish their Friendship.

§ 2. THESE Orders are of Two Kinds, 1. *Religious*, or *Ecclesiastical*; and, 2. *Military*, or *Secular*.

§ 3. THE Institutions of the latter Sort were after a while thought too weak to continue, if not sustained

by Religion and Piety; and too defective without adjoyning Ecclesiastical Persons thereunto. Therefore the Founders, considering Divine Assistance should concur with Military Industry, began to dedicate these Orders to the Honour and Worship of God, or to our Saviour, or to the blessed Virgin, or some other of the Saints, to gain the Protection and Favour of Heaven, more easily, as they thought, obtainable by the Prayers and Offices of the Clergy. Whereupon some in their Institution joyned Sacred Orders to their Military, and made Provision for Sacred Persons to pray for their Prosperity at home, while they were engaged abroad. Hence King *Edw. III.* at the first Institution of the *Gar-ter*, appointed Thirteen Secular Canons, and Thirteen Vicars to attend the Celebration of Divine Offices. Upon the same Account certain Foundations of Divine Service were erected at *Bugey*, for the Order of the *An-nunciads*; at *Dijon*, for the Order of the *Golden Fleece*; and at *Mont St. Michael* in *Normandy*, for the Order of *St. Michael*.

§ 4. I shall now deliver a brief Account of the Religious Orders of Knighthood, proceeding according to their Antiquity.

1. *The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, are accounted the most Ancient.*

Dr. Heylin reports this Order to be instituted *A. D.* 1099. at such Time as the Temple of *Jerusalem* was regain'd from the *Saracens* by *Philip* King of *France*. Yet *Favin* will have it to be by *Baldwin* the First, King of *Jerusalem*; for while the *Saracens* possess'd the City, there were certain Canons Regular of *St. Augustin*, to whom they permitted the Custody of the Holy Sepulchre. These Canons *Baldwin* made Men of Arms, and Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, and ordained that they should nevertheless retain their white Habits, and on the Breast bear his own Arms, which were *Argent a Cross potent*: Or, between four Crosses of the same, commonly call'd *The Jerusalem Cross*. Their Great Master was the Patriarch of *Jerusalem*. They were to guard the Sepulchre, fight against the *Saracens* and Infidels, protect Pilgrims,

grims, redeem Christian Captives, hear Mass every Day, recite the Hours of the Cross, and to bear the five red Crosses in memory of our Saviour's Wounds. Their Rule was confirm'd by Pope *Innocent III.* Upon the loss of the Holy Land, these Knights retired to *Perugia* in *Italy*; but retaining their white Habit, chang'd their Arms to a double red Cross. *A. D.* 1484. they were incorporated to the *Knights Hospitallers of Jerusalem* then in *Rhodes*. But *A. D.* 1496. *Alexander VI.* made himself, and the Popes his Successors, Great Masters thereof, and empower'd the Guardian of the Holy Sepulchre (his Vicar General) to bestow the same upon Pilgrims to the Holy Land. *Philip II.* King of *Spain*, endeavour'd to restore this Order in some of his Dominions, about the Year 1558. himself being elected Great Master: And another Attempt was made by the Duke of *Nevers*, 1615. but these Designs took no Effect.

2. *Knights Hospitallers of St. John Baptist in Jerusalem.*

BEFORE the taking of *Jerusalem* from the *Saracens*, certain Christian Merchants of *Naples* obtain'd leave from the Caliph of *Egypt* to erect a small and convenient House, for the Entertainment of themselves and Countrymen, which they built before the Church of the *Holy Sepulchre*, together with a small Oratory. To them repair'd certain Canons of the Order of *St. Augustin*, who built another Oratory; but the Confluence of Pilgrims growing great, they erected a large Hospital, in the Place where our Saviour celebrated his last Supper, for the better accommodating devout Travellers, who for want of a Place to lodge in were often robb'd and murder'd: So that at length from their Charity and Hospitality, as also for that they took *St. John Baptist* for their Patron, they obtain'd that Title. It was instituted *A. D.* 1092. or according to others 1099. by *Gerard*, a Native of *Thoulouse*, who came to *Jerusalem* in the Time of *Godfry of Bouillon*, and built this Hospital (which became the first Seat of this Order) dedicated to *St. John of Cyprus*, Bp. of *Alexandria*,

commonly call'd *Johannes Eleemosynarius*; and King *Baldwin I.* conferred on them large Privileges, permitting them Arms, and instituted them to be Knights, *A. D.* 1104. Their Duty was to fight against the Infidels, and they acknowledged Obedience to the Patriarch of *Jerusalem*; but growing rich, they obtained from *Rome* to be absolved from that Obedience. Pope *Gelasius II.* or *Calixtus II.* *A. D.* 1120. confirmed their Rule of living; and *Adrian IV.* receiv'd them under the Protection of the Papal See, being likewise endowed with ample Privileges, and exempted from Payment of Tithes, by succeeding Popes, chiefly by *Pius IV.*

THEY took the black Habit of Hermits of *St. Augustin*, and lived under his Rule by Grant of *Honorius II.* *Anno* 1125. vowing Obedience, Poverty, and Chastity; and on the Breast of their Habit wore at first a plain Cross of White Cloth, which was after changed to one with Eight Points; but in time of War they used a Red Cassock, bearing the White Cross upon it. Unto *Gerard* succeeded *Raimund*, who digested and enlarged their Laws and Institutions in the Composition whereof his Stile was *Raimundus Dei gratia servus pauperum Jesu Christi et Custos Hospitalis Jerusalemitani*; but afterwards he and his Successors had the Title of Great Master of the Order given him, to denote his Power and Authority. At this Day he has the Title of Prince of *Malta* and *Goza*; among his Privileges he seals in Lead, as doth the Pope and Doge of *Venice*; he acknowledges the Pope for his Head, and the King of *Spain* for his Patron; he had under him in several Kingdoms Priors; some of whom had also the Addition of Great with us in *England* he was stiled *Prior Hospitalis*; *St. Johannis Jerusalem* in *Anglia*, and by that Title was he summoned to the Parliament as a Baron of this Kingdom, and at length for Place and Precedency was ranked the first Baron; and the greatness of these Knights grew to such height that *temp. H. 3.* they had in *Christendom* 19000 Mannors.

WHEN *Saladine* took *Jerusalem*, these Knights retreated to *Acres* or *Ptolemais*, and that being taken they seized upon the Island of *Rhodes*, *A. D.* 1308. whence they began to be call'd Knights of *Rhodes*; but *A. D.* 1522. being driven thence by *Solyman*, they betook themselves to the Island

of *Malta*, which with *Tripoli* and *Goza* were granted to them in Fee by the Emperor *Charles V.* A. D. 1530. under the Tender of one *Falcon* yearly to the Viceroy of *Sicily*, and to acknowledge the King of *Spain* and *Sicily* for their Protectors. In this Isle they continue a Bulwark to those Parts, and from this their Settlement are called *Knights of Malta*.

3. *Knights Templars.*

ABOUT the Year 1117, 1118, 1119, or 1120, this Order took Beginning, *Baldwin II.* then reigning in *Jerusalem*; when Nine Gentlemen, of whom Two of noble Extraction, *Hugh de Paganes* and *Godfrey de St. Omer*, came in Devotion to the *Holy Land*; they were called Brothers of the Militia of the Temple, ordinarily *Knights Templars*, from the Habitation assigned them out of a part of the King's own Palace, adjoining to the Temple of *Solomon* in *Jerusalem*. Their first Undertaking was to guard the most dangerous Ways about that City, against the Violence and Robberies of the *Saracens*, which made them acceptable to all, and for which they had Remission of their Sins; but for the first Nine Years they were yet so poor that they lived upon the Alms of others, wore Clothes bestowed in Charity upon them, and rode two on one Horse; in memory of which primitive Poverty their Seal had the Impress, which is represented in *Math. Paris*, A. D. 1127. They had Rules assigned them, drawn up by *St. Bernard* Abbot of *Clairvaux*, by the Appointment of Pope *Honorius II.* and *Stephen* Patriarch of *Jerusalem*. They made their Vows of Obedience, Poverty and Chastity, and to live under the Rules of Canons regular of *St. Augustin*. Their Habit was White, to which, in the Time of *Eugenius III.* they added the Red Cross, and of the same Form that the Hospitallers wore (*Favin* says a patriarchal Cross) and sowed it on the left Shoulder of the *Maulles*. These with the Holy Sepulchre Hospitallers and *Teutonicks*, principally supported a long time the Kingdom of *Jerusalem*; but when Riches encreas'd, and their Revenues augmented, they grew proud, fell from the Obedience of the Patriarch to joyn with the Pope; and at last,

1307. all the Knights of this Order in *France* were, in one and the same Hour, seized and imprison'd by *Philip le Bel*, King of *France*, with Consent of *Pope Clement V.* being charged with most infamous and damnable Crimes. And in *England*, Anno 1. Ed. 2. they were also apprehended afterwards, rendred Convicts, and all their Possessions seized into the King's Hands. Howbeit the Bishop of *York* commiserating their deplorable Condition within his Diocess, charitably disposed of them in Monasteries under his Jurisdiction. Two Years after many of these Knights were burn'd in *France*, and *Jaques de la Maule*, the last great Master, suffered the same Fate, having seen, A. D. 1312. his Order by Papal Authority, condemned and perpetually dissolved; after which their Lands were annexed to the Hospitalers, for their Service against the *Turks*.

THUS they fell, no less famous for Martial Atchievements in the East, than their Wealth in the West; for they enjoyed 16000 Lordships in *Europe*, and a *Spanish* Author tells us, their Revenue was Two Millions yearly, and had in possession 40000 Commanderies, which occasion'd divers to think they were falsely accused, and by suborned Witneses, merely upon the Ambition and covetous Design of *Philip* King of *France*.

4. *Knights of the Order of St. Lazarus.*

THESE were at the first a Fraternity of Religious Monks, after which they became Ecclesiastick Knights, in Imitation of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. *Pope Pius V.* 1572. styles it *Antiquissimum Charitatis & Militie Christi Ordinem*; yet it must be understood as an Order of Monks, founded by *St. Basil*, about the time of *Julian the Apostate*, A. D. 366. upon a Charitable Account, viz. to take Care of Leprous Persons (a Malady frequent in the East) by which they became separated, even from the Conversation of Men. At length, through the Incurfion of the *Barbarians*, and Injury of Time, it lay extinguish'd, but was revived when the *Latin* Princes joynd in a Holy League to recover the *Holy Land*. And a famous Hospital was erected at *Jerusalem*, under the Title of *St. Lazarus*, for

for the Reception of Lepers: For in that Time the Monks of this Order added Martial Discipline to their Skill in Physick; and for their Services against the Infidels, begat a great Esteem from *Baldwin II. King of Jerusalem*, and some of his Successors. In procees of Time this Order decayed, being suppressed by *Innocent VIII.* who united it to the *Hospitallers* at *Rhodes*, *A. D.* 1490. Nevertheless *Pius IV.* restored it *A. D.* 1565. confirming the old, and granting new Privileges, making his Kinsman *Don Janot de Chastillon* great Master. *Pius V. A. D.* 1567. enlarged their Privileges, permitting them to take one Wife only, to wit, a Virgin, not a Widow. Lastly, *Pope Gregory XIII. A. D.* 1572. bestowed the Great Mastership of this Order upon *Emanuel Philibert Duke of Savoy*, and his Successors, and prescribed them the *Cistercian Rule*; and accordingly he had the Investiture and Collation of the *Commanderies* in *Spain* and *Italy*.

5. *Knights of the Teutonick Order, or Prussia.*

IN the Time of the Holy War, a wealthy Gentleman of *Germany*, who dwelt at *Jerusalem*, commiserating the Condition of his Country-men, coming thither in Devotion, made his House their Receptacle; afterwards he erected a Chapel to the Blessed Virgin, whence they had also the Title of *Marian Knights*. To him associated other *Germans*, and in short time encreasing, they professed the Military Employments of the *Templars*, and followed the Acts of Piety and Charity of the *Hospitallers*. *A. D.* 1190. or 1191. they elected *Henry Walpott* their first Master, and the following Year were confirmed by *Celestine III.* under the Title of *Knights Teutonicks, or Dutch Knights, of the Hospital of St. Mary the Virgin, vowing Poverty, Obedience, and Charity, and following the Rule of St. Augustin*. Their Statutes were composed from those of the *Hospitallers* and *Templars*, and One Article was, *That none but Germans should be of this Order*. Their Habit was a White Mantle, on the Breast a plain *Black Cross*, but some make it a *Black Cross* voided with a *Cross Potent*. At *Acon* they erected another Hospital; but after that
City

City was taken by *Saladine*, they removed under *Hermannus* their Master into *Germany*, on whom the Emperor *Frederick II.* *A. D.* 1229. and Pope *Honorius III.* bestowed *Prussia*; where having conquer'd that Nation, and reduced it from Paganism, they built the City of *Maryburgh*, and there, *A. D.* 1340. fixed the chief Residence of their great Master. This Country they enjoyed till 1525. that *Albertus Brandenburg*, the last great Master, made solemn Renunciation of that Order, and became feudatory to *Sigismund I.* King of *Poland*, who created this *Albert* first Duke of *Prussia*: However, some of the Knights disrellishing this Action elected another great Master, viz. *Albert Wolfgang*, and leaving *Prussia* settled in *Germany*, where they now reside. The younger Sons of the *German* Princes being, for the most part received into this Order, giving it the greatest Reputation.

6. Knights of Mount-Joy.

THESE are so called, from a Castle where this Order was instituted, built upon the Point of a Mountain not far from *Jerusalem*, whence the Pilgrims first view'd the *Holy City*, and where these Knights lay in Garrison. Their Habit was White, and the Badge thereof an *Obtogonal Cross Red*; they vowed Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience, and followed the Rule of *St. Basil*; which Pope *Alexander III.* *A. D.* 1180. changed to that of *Augustine*. Upon the Loss of the *Holy Land* they retired to *Spain*, and fought against the *Moors*, and according to the Places they resided in, had other Names, in *Catalonia* and *Valentia*, *Equites de Mongoia*, i. e. *Mount Joy*; but in *Castile*, *Knights of Monfrac*, a Castle there. When *Alphonso IX.* King of *Castile* gave them Lands they had won from the *Moors*, the Donation says, *To you Don Rodrigo Gonsales, Master of Monfrac, of the Order of Mount Joy.* Upon the Decay of this Order, *A. D.* 1221. this Castle was given to *Don Gonsalvonez*, Master of the Order of *Calatrava*, by *Ferdinand the Saint*; and these Knights were incorporated with them.

7. *Knights of St. John of Acon or Acres.*

UNDER the Patronage of this Saint was this Order erected; they exercised all Duties of Charity towards Pilgrims, and assumed Arms in imitation of the *Hospitallers*; they followed the Rule of *St. Augustine*; and according to *Favina*, had a Black Habit, upon which they wore a *White Cross patee*. After *Acon* was taken they removed into *Spain*, and flourished in the Reign of *Alphonfus* the Astrologer King of *Castile*, about which time *Pope Alexander IV.* approved the Order under the conjoined Title of *St. Thomas* and *St. John of Acon*. This King gave them by his Will all the Furniture of his House, and much Money; but afterward they dwindled, and at last were united to the *Hospitallers*. The Ensign was a *Red Cross*, in the middle whereof stood the Figures of *St. John* and *St. Thomas*.

8. *Knights of St. Thomas.*

DISTINCT from the former, yet wearing the same Habit, as the *Knights of St. John of Acon*, making the same Processions, and following the same Rule; their Badge was a *Saltire Gules*, (or as others are of Opinion) the same with that of *St. John of Acon*, wanting the Figures in the middle: But *Favin* reports, this Order was instituted by King *Richard I.* after the Surprizal of *Acon*; and that these *Knights* were of the *English Nation*, who wore a *White Habit* and a *Red Cross*, charged in the middle with an *Escallon*, and that *St. Thomas Becket* was their Patron. Howbeit, after the *Christians* were driven out of the *Holy Land*, the *Knights* of this Order were joined to the *Hospitallers*.

9. *Knights of St. Blaze.*

THESE were also called *Knights de Sta. Maria*; they were Officers and Servants to the *Kings of Armenia*; their Habit was Sky colour with a *Cross Gold* on their Breasts; others say a *Red Cross*, and in the middle the
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Picture of *St. Blaxe*, their Patron. This Order was at the height, when the *Armenian Kings* of the House of *Luzignan* kept their Court in *Acon*.

10. *Knights of the Martyrs in Palestine.*

THESE took their Denomination from an Hospital in *Palestine*, dedicated to *St. Cosmus* and *St. Damianus*, Martyrs; where Acts of Charity were exercised towards Sick Strangers. Their Profession obliged them to other Works of Mercy, viz. to redeem Captives, and bury their Dead. They followed the Rule of *St. Basil*, which was confirmed to them by Pope *John XXII*. Their Badge was a *Red Cross*, in the middle whereof, within a Circle, was the aforesaid Two *Saints*. When they retir'd into *Europe* they changed into a *Red Cross*, and *St. Augustin's* Rule.

11. *Knights of St. Catherine at Mount Sinai:*

THIS Order was instituted, *A. D.* 1063. under the Patronage of *St. Catherine*, whose Body was there deposited in the Church of the Monastery erected and dedicated to her Name. Their first Institution was to guard the said Sepulchre, to secure Travellers, defend the *Grecian* Pilgrims, and to relieve them with Hospitality. Their Habit was White, and they lived under the Rule of *St. Basil the Great*, vowing conjugal Chastity, and Obedience to the Abbot of this Monastery, who was their Superior. But when the *Turks* obtained these Countries, these Knights were ill treated and driven away, and the Order almost abolished; nevertheless some Shadow remains for such as travel to visit the Holy Sepulchre at *Jerusalem*, do now and then pass to this Monastery at *Mount Sinai*, where in imitation of the *Padre Guardian* of *Jerusalem*, the principal Monk in this Covent makes them Knights of *St. Catherine* over her Tomb, with the like Questions and Formulary as used at the Holy Sepulchre. These Knights now wear upon the left side of their White Habit the Cross of *Jerusalem*, and Instrument of *St. Catherine's* Martyrdom; but according to others, the middle of the Wheel is pierced with a Sword.

12. *Knights of St. Anthony in Æthiopia.*

AFTER the Death of St. *Anthony* the Hermite, who dy'd about the Year 357. many of his Disciples remaining near *Æthiopia*, follow'd his Example and Manner of Life, and their Successors liv'd in great Austerity and Solitariness in the Desert (therefore call'd *Anchorites*) till the Year 370. when 'tis said *John*, Emperor of *Æthiopia*, erected them into a Religious Order of Knighthood, under the Title and Protection of St. *Anthony*, Patron of his Empire, and bestow'd upon them great Privileges; and being thus instituted, they receiv'd St. *Basil's* Rule, and cohabited in Monasteries. Their Habit is black, with a blue Cross *Tau*. Their chief Seat is in the *Isle of Meroe*; but in other Parts of *Æthiopia* they have great Numbers of Convents, and no less than 2000000 of annual Revenue. The eldest Sons of Nobles and Gentlemen cannot be admitted, but the second Sons may; and if a Man (except a Physician) have three Sons, he is bound to assign one of them to be of this Order. Their Vow is to observe conjugal Chastity; to die in Defence of the Christian Faith; to guard the Empire; to obey their Laws and their Superiors; and to go to War when and wheresoever commanded: Moreover, they take an Oath not to fight in Wars between Christians, nor receive Holy Orders, or marry without License. They are of two Sorts: One employ'd in the Wars, the other who being Old are exempted from Military Services, and retire themselves under the Title and Profession of Monks, to the Abbies where they first took their Habit; before which they must serve three Years against the *Arabian* Pyrates about the *Red Sea*, three Years against the *Turks*, and three against the *Moors* upon the Borders of *Borneo*. When they come to be admitted into their Abbey, they are introduced in their Military Habit, of which being disrob'd, the Religious one is put on, viz. a black Gown reaching down to the Ground, lined with blue, having a blue Cross fix'd to the Breast, and over that a black Cowle; they are afterwards led to the Church, and there make their Profession,

Profession: *Philip VII.* Son to the Founder, enlarg'd their Lands and Privileges, and added a Border of Gold to the Badge of the *blue Cross*, as observed at this Day.

IN *Italy, France and Spain*, there are a Sort of Monks that have the Title of Knights of *St. Anthony*, which observe the Rule of *St. Augustin*, and they wear a plain Cross like that in *Æthiopia*; but the Principals of these wear a double *St. Anthony's Cross* of blue *Satin*, the one above the other. Their chief Seat is at *Vienne in Dauphine*, of which Place the General of the Order bears the Title of Abbot, the Monastery being erected into an Abbey 1297. in Honour of *St. Anthony*, whose Body was translated thither from *Constantinople*; and all other Places built in Honour of his Name, were made subject to him *A. D. 1523.* *Moræus* calls them *The Hospitallers of St. Anthony*, and says they begun in *France A. D. 1121.* from *Gaston* a Nobleman of *Vienna*. But *Baronius* and others say, *Gaston* and *Gerin* instituted it earlier, making the Letter *Thau* their Ensign or Badge.

13. *The Constantinian Angelick Knights of St. George in Greece, but now in Italy.*

MARQUEZ, a *Spanish* Writer, makes this one of the first Military Orders in Christendom, and derives a formal Institution, Rules and Laws from *Constantine the Great*, which appears little better than Fabulous, therefore we shall omit his Account.

THE Great Masters have their chief Seat and Convent at *Brianno* near *Venice*, and is Hereditary in the Family of *Angelus Flavius Comnenus*. Among the rest of their Prerogatives, the Masters are *Commensales Pontificum*, i. e. may sit at the Table with the Pope, who defends them as Benefactors to the Church, and Founders of the *Lateran Cathedral* at *Rome*. As Subjects to no Prince, they have Power of coining Money: They give Titles of Counts and Princes to their own Fraternity, and take upon them the restoring to Honours, of legitimating Bastards, making Doctors, Poets Laureats and Publick Notaries. This Order is under the Protection of
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the *Virgin Mary* and Patronage of *St. George*; and they profess Obedience and conjugal Chastity; they wear a white Habit, on the left Side whereof is sowed a red or crimson Velvet Cross, Flory; in the middle is the

Labarum \oplus imbroidered with the Letter A upon one Arm of the Cross, and Ω on the other. The Sides are wrought with Gold and Silk, but the *Labarum* is all Gold. Amongst these Knights are three Degrees; the first call'd Collered or Grand Crosses, wearing a Collar form'd of *Labarums*, whereat hangs the Cross and *St. George*. The second are the Knights, and these wear the Cross above describ'd. The third are Servants, and they bear the Cross only, without the *Labarum*. The many Grand Priorates or Commanderies belonging to this Order, shew the Power they were formerly endow'd with.

14. *Knights of St. James in Galicia or Sanctiago.*

THIS is the principal Order in *Spain*, and had its Title of *Don Rairo*, King of *Leon*, who about the Year 826. at *Clavigio*, by the Assistance of *St. James* (said to appear upon a white Horse, bearing a Banner with a red Cross) and gain'd a mighty Victory over a great Army of the *Moors*. Some place the Institution about the Year 1160. others 1175. whereas it was only then confirm'd, and their Rule of Living prescrib'd by Pope *Alexander III.* there being a Fraternity of Knights in *Spain*, A. D. 1030. under a *Master* and *Governor*, with Revenues.

AND altho' this Order at first were dispos'd to virtuous Courses, and valiantly to encounter the *Moors*, Enemies to the Cross of *Christ*, yet in time they became scandalously perverted, but were afterwards reduc'd to a better Life, and approv'd on by the said Pope *Alexander*, who receiv'd them into the Protection of the Papal See, and gave them the Rule of *St. Augustin*, the Form of holding Chapters, of electing their *Masters*, of *Treves*, and thirteen *Commendadores* of Houses, and of the *Visitors*; and in short very large Privileges, together with the Monastery of *St. Lorjo*, situate in *Galicia* near *Sanctiago*;

Santiago; and the Prior and Canons thereof were incorporated into this Order.

THEIR Ensign is a *red Cross*, which the Knights wear upon their Breast, terminating like the Blade of a Sword, the Hilt crossetted and fashion'd after the ancient Manner; whereupon it was call'd *La Order de Santiago de la Espada*.

THEIR Habit is a white Mantle close before, on the Breast whereon is placed the said Cross, made of Silk or Cloth, and they are obliged to wear it upon their Garments, Coats or Cloaks, tho' they use Crosses of Gold likewise.

WHEN the *Moors* were driven out of *Spain*, and the principal Branch of this Order expir'd, upon a Contest for the Place of Great Master, the Crown of *Castile* stepp'd in between, and by consent of the Knights, obtain'd it under the Title of Administrator, which was granted to King *Ferdinand*; and his Son *Charles V.* annex'd it with all its Rights, &c. to his Successors in the Kingdoms of *Castile* and *Leon*. Since which, the Kings of *Spain* now enjoy the Administration of this Order, and carry that Title and Stile in the Inscription upon the Great Seal thereof, which holds the Royal Arms of *Spain*, upon a Cross that filleth all the Shield, with a Sword at each of the four Corners.

15. *Knights of St. Saviour in Arragon.*

THESE were instituted *A. D.* 1118. by Don *Alphonso*, call'd *Emperor of Spain, King of Navarre, Arragon, &c.* chosen out of the *Spanish* and *French* Nobility that assisted in his Wars. He form'd them into a Society, the better to enable him to drive the *Moors* out of *Saragossa*, and the whole Territory of *Arragon*. Their Rule of living was the *Cisterian*, and somewhat conformable to the *Knights Templars*. When the *Moors* were driven out of *Spain*, their rich *Commanderies* were at length united to the Crown.

THEIR Habit was a white Mantle, on the Breast whereof was a *red Cross Anchre*; but some say it was the Figure of our Saviour

16. *Knights d'Avis in Portugal.*

Don *Alphonso Henriquez*, first King of *Portugal*, took from the *Moors*, *A. D.* 1147. the City of *Evora*, and to strengthen it, sent thither several gallant Commanders, who assum'd the Title of *Knights of St. Mary of Evora*, putting themselves under the Protection of our blessed Lady. Not long after they were call'd *d'Avis*, from a Castle upon the *Portuguese* Frontiers, conquer'd from the *Moors*, whither they transplanted themselves. It was confirm'd by Pope *Innocent III.* *A. D.* 1204. under the Rule of *St. Beneditt*, and therefore in some Papal Rules call'd of *St. Beneditt d'Avis*. The *Knights* profess conjugal Chastity and Obedience. Anno 1213. they submitted themselves to the Rule, Statutes and Visitation of the Order of *Calatrava*; but in the Time of *John of Portugal* (natural Son to *Pedro* King of *Portugal*) seventh Great Master *d'Avis*, they cast off their Acknowledgments to *Calatrava*, and never after submitted to them; and afterwards, when the Crown of *Portugal* fell into the Hands of *Philip II.* King of *Spain*, this Order was govern'd according to the Statutes of *Portugal*.

Their Badge is a green Cross, Flory, (such as the *Knights of Alcantara* us'd to wear.) They must be Gentlemen by Extraction, both of the Father's and Mother's side.

17. *Knights of St. Michael's Wing in Portugal.*

About the Year 1165. others say 1171. Don *Alphonso*, who founded the Order *d'Avis*, founded this also after his obtaining a notable Victory over the *Moors* and *Albara* King of *Sevil*, in which Battle *St. Michael* the Archangel is said to appear on the right Side of *Alphonso*, and fight against them.

Their Investiture, &c. was the same with *d'Avis*. It is now grown out of Use, but the Mastership remains with the King of *Portugal*.

18. *Knights of St. Gereon.*

This Order was establish'd by *Frederick Barbarossa* the Emperor; others say by *Frederick II.* and consist'd only of the *German Nation.* They follow'd the Rule of *St. Augustin,* and wore a white Habit, whereon was sow'd a black Patriarchal Cross, set on a little green Hill.

19. *Knights of St. Julian de Pereyro, or of Alcantara.*

They had the first Appellation from *St. Julian de Pereyro,* a Town in *Leon,* where they had a Monastery built for them by *Ferdinand II.* King of *Leon* and *Galicia,* who in his Diploma of Privileges granted thereunto 1176. stiled himself Protector of this Society of Knights. In the Approbation-Bull of Pope *Alexander III.* their Chief is called Prior; but in that of Pope *Lucius III.* he is stiled Master of *Pereyro.* They us'd a Secular Habit, modest and grave, and the Ecclesiasticks a Clerical Habit, with a Shred of Cloth and a Scapulary, to distinguish them from other Seculars and Ecclesiasticks. They observ'd the Rule of *St. Benedict* moderated, as it was convenient for the Exercise of Arms against the *Moors,* for which End it was instituted. Their ancient Badge was a *Pear-tree Vert,* in Allusion to the Name.

The Occasion of altering the first Appellation was upon change of their Habitation. Pope *Adrian VI.* annex'd this Mastership, together with those of *St. James* and *Calatrava,* to the Royal Crown of *Castile* for ever.

20. *Knights of Trugillo or Truxillo in Spain.*

This Order is so call'd from the City of *Trugillo* in *Estremadura,* but when, or by whom founded, or their Badge, is unknown. Some suppose these Knights the same with that of *Alcantara;* 'tis evident they were in being *A. D.* 1227. when 'tis pretended the Master of *Alcantara* took *Trugillo* from the *Moors,* and plac'd there a Brotherhood of Knights. But it seems these Knights
of

of *Truxillo*, were a distinct Order several Years before, and 'tis not unlikely that they might be incorporated into that of *St. Julian de Pereyro*, and by this Means the Order of *Alcantara* acquired the Towns of *Trugillo*, *Sancta Cruz*, &c. which *Alfonso IX.* King of *Castile* had given them. They were to be of Noble Descent, and make proof of their Gentility; they were obliged to be near the King's Person, and to attend him in all Martial Expeditions, maintaining always Two Horses and Servants in Readiness.

21. *Knights of Calatrava.*

This Order was instituted in *Castile* by *Sanchio III.* and so called from *Calatrava*, a Frontier Castle of *Castile* and *Toledo*, which the *Moors* took, *A. D.* 714. compounded of the *Arabick* *Cala* a Castle, and the *Spanish* *Travas* Manacles, with which the *Moors* fettered the Christians; 400 Years after which, upon the Recovery of the Town from the *Moors*, it was given to the *Knights Templars*; but they, unable to stop the mighty Conquests of the *Moors*, the said *Sanchio* by Proclamation promis'd the Inheritance to any who would undertake the Defence of it, being the Key of the Kingdom of *Toledo*. At length *Raymond* of *Barcelona* (formerly a Knight, then a *Cistercian* Abbot) by the Perswasion of *Velasquez*, accepted the Proffer, and had the Donation, *A. D.* 1158. and fortifying it by the Help of his Associates, this Order arose, call'd at first *Militia de Calatrava*. Upon the account of the Fertility of the Place, 20000 Men and their Families were drawn from the neighbouring Countries to settle there, so that the *Moors* never after attempted it. They remain'd under their own Masters till Pope *Adrian VI.* annex'd it to the Crowns of *Castile* and *Leon*.

22. *Order of the Holy Ghost at Rome.*

Marquez calls them *Brothers of the Hospital of the Holy Ghost*, who tho' not invested with Swords and Spurs, are nevertheless reckoned among the Military Orders, because bound to certify their Gentility before Admittance.

tance. Their chief Seat is the Sumptuous Hospital of the Holy Ghost, founded at *Saxia* near the River *Tyber* at *Rome*, by Pope *Innocent III.* *A. D.* 1198. or 1201. But the Ancient Foundation was the Hospital of the *Holy Ghost* at *Montpelier* in *France*, tho' this other became the Principal. They profess Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience, living under the Rule of *St. Augustine*, and have a Master. Their Ensign is a *White Patriarchal Cross* with *Twelve Points*, sowed to their Breast, and on the left side of their *Black Mantle*.

In this Hospital, Care is taken for the nursing and bringing up exposed Children, curing Infirmities, Entertainment of Strangers for Three Days, relieving the Poor, and the like Works. Their Revenue is about 24000 Ducats per Day, having great Commandaries in *Italy*, *Sicily*, *Spain*, *France*, *Burgundy*, *Germany*, and elsewhere.

23. Knights of *St. George d'Alfama*.

So named from a Town in *Tortosa*, were instituted, *A. D.* 1201. received Approbation from the Papal See, *A. D.* 1363. and *A. D.* 1399. was united to the Order of our Lady of *Montesa*.

24. Knights of *Christ in Livonia, or of the Sword-bearers*.

A. D. 1186. *Mainard* first preach'd Christianity to the *Livonians*, and erected the Bishoprick of *Riga*; but his Successors meeting with many Difficulties, *A. D.* 1200. *Albert*, then Bishop of *Livonia*, instituted this Order in Imitation of the *Knights Teutonicks*, with design to extirpate Idolatry, and promote the Gospel. He prescribed to these Knights the *Cistercian* Rule and Habit, viz. a long *White Mantle* and *Black Hood*; on the Breast was the Figure of a *Red Sword*, or rather *Two plac'd in Saltire*, whence they had the Title of *Ensisferi fratres*, or *Brethren Sword-bearers*. Their Statutes were something like the *Knights Templars*, and they vowed Obedience and Chastity. Pope *Innocent III.* confirmed this Order, which became fully instituted, *A. D.* 1203. but because they

they could not of themselves accomplish their End. About the Year 1237, they were united to the *Teutonic* Order, and submitted to their Rule and Habit, by whose Help they overcame the *Livonians*, and brought them to the Christian Faith; thenceforward the Great Master of *Livonia* acknowledged him of *Prussia* their Superior, until *Walter de Pletenberg*, their Great Master, separated this Order from their Obedience to the *Teutonic*. Finally, *A. D. 1561. Gothard de Kerler*, the last Great Master, following the Example of the Great Master of *Prussia*, became subject to the Crown of *Poland*, surrendering to King *Sigismond II.* the City and Castle of *Riga*, and all the Lands, Charters, Privileges, &c. of this Order, receiving in exchange the Dukedom of *Curland*, to him and his Heirs for ever; so the Order expired after 357 Years continuance.

25. *Knights of Jesus Christ in Italy or France.*

St. Dominick descended of the Family of the *Guzmans* in *Spain*, instituted this Order, *A. D. 1206.* principally to fight against the *Albigenses*, then call'd Hereticks. He prescribed to them a White Habit, and for their Badge a *Cross flory, quarterly, sable and argent.* The Work being done with the *Albigenses*, they devoted themselves wholly to spiritual Warfare; and afterwards, upon admitting Widows and Virgins into their Order, they became called *Fratres seu Sorores de Pœnitentia B. Dominici*, whose Rule Pope *Innocent VI.* confirm'd *circa An. 1360.*

26. *Knights of St. Mary de Merced. in Aragon.*

James I. of *Aragon*, being sometime a Prisoner to *Simon Earl of Montfort* in *France*, where he suffered much Hardship, and being moved with the insufferable Miseries the Christians endured under the Slavery of the *Moors*, made a Vow to the Blessed Virgin, That when delivered himself, he would endeavour the Redemption of such Christians as the *Moors* had made Captives, and accordingly laid up great Sums for the Performance; and afterwards, by the Council of *Raymond de Penafort*, his Confessor, and *Pedro Nolasco*, a Noble

Chevalier, he founded in *Barcelona* this Order of *la Nueva Merced*, so named by the Virgin, who, as they reported, appeared to them all in one and the same Hour, directing the Institution. In *Anno 1358*. I find it called also *Ordo beatae Eulaliae*, from *St. Eulalia* the Virgin and Martyr, buried at *Barcelona* in the Church bearing her Name. This Order began on the Day of *St. Laurence*, in *August*, *A. D. 1218*. in the Fifth Year of that King, which Day they annually commemorate. They were to gather Alms, and go in Person to redeem Christian Slaves; which Work prospered so well, that *Velasco* (the first General or Head) set at Liberty 400 within the Space of Six Years after its Foundation. Their Habit was a Coat and Scapular of course white Cloath, garnished with Cordons and Ribbons, wherewith they fast'ned it about their Necks, and from the upper-end thereof issued a Cap that covered half their Head: The Monks wore their Coats and Scapulars reaching down to their Feet; but those of the Knights were much shorter. *A. D. 1251*. King *James*, the Founder, granted unto all the Fraternity, that they should wear upon their Scapulars the Arms of *Aragon*, viz. Or 4 *Pales Gules*, and above that the White Cross of the Church of *Barcelona* in a red Field, with Two Coats joined together *per fess* in one Shield, which came afterwards to be encompassed with a *Bordure*, which the Knights wore on their Scapulars, but the Monks on their Mantles, and both upon their Breasts. Disputes arising among themselves, they were incorporated with the Knights of *Montesa*; so that, ever since, the whole Fraternity have been only Priests. The Master General hath his Residence at *Barcelona*, by the Decrees of Pope *Clement V.* and *John XXII.* To conclude, they now collect great Sums of Money, send out their Agents yearly, chiefly to *Algiers* and *Fess*, and for the Redemption of Christian Captives, and have from the Time of their Institution followed their proposed Ends with all religious Care and Faithfulness.

27. *Knights of the Rosary in Toledo.*

Roderick, Bishop of Toledo in Spain, seeing the Country fore oppressed by the Moors, assembled the Noblest of the City, and propos'd the Necessity of their Assistance to extirpate the Moors; whereunto they being unanimously inclin'd, he gave Beginning to this Order. By their Statutes, besides fighting against the Moors, they are obliged to say, continually, the Rosary of our Blessed Lady. Their Rule of Living was that of St. Dominick; and their Ensign the Figure of our Lady of the Rosary upon a Cross flory, quarterly, argent and sable.

28. *Knights of St. Mary the Glorious, in Italy.*

Their Author was Bartholomeo de Vincenza, a Friar Preacher, or Dominican, afterwards Bishop of that City. The End he chiefly design'd, was to procure Peace to Italy, then much disquieted by Civil Wars. It was instituted, A. D. 1233. called *Generalis Devotionis annus*, and approved and confirmed by Pope Urban IV. A. 1. 1262. and the Rule of St. Dominick prescribed them, who are obliged to take into their Care Widows and Orphans, and endeavour to beget Concord among such as are at Variance. Their Habit is a White Tunick or Cassock, and a Mantle of Ruffet; some make their Badge which they wear upon their Breast a purple Cross patee bordered with Gold, others make it a purple Cross patee, with Two Stars in chief; but Marquez, that has writ of the Order of Knighthood, gives it an Octogonal Cross, like that of Malta. They profess Obedience and Conjugal Chastity; but are forbid to wear Spurs or Bridles of Gold: They are commonly called *Cavalieri de Madona*, and reside at Bologna, Modena, and other Italian Cities; and because they have no Monasteries, but dwell in their own Houses at Ease and Plenty, they were called *Fratres Gaudentes* or *Hilares*.

29. *Knights of St. James, in Portugal,*

WERE instituted, *A. D.* 1310. by *Denys VI.* King of *Portugal*, in honour of *St. James*, under whose Protection he became victorious in divers Battles against the *Moors*, and at length quieted his Kingdom by the Assistance of these Knights. It was not long after its Institution ere this Order flourished, through the Privileges the Founder bestowed, and the Approbation of *Pope Nicholas IV.* and others his Successors. The Knights profess Conjugal Chastity, Hospitality and Obedience, and none are admitted till they make proof of their Gentility by Blood. Their Ensign is a red Sword, formed like that of *St. James of Galicia*; the Habit White, and the only difference between them lies in a little Twist of Gold which these of *Portugal* draw about their Sword. At *Alcasar de Sul* was their Principal Convent, which they afterwards removed to *Dalmela*, where it yet continues. Their Statutes, &c. are much the same with those of *St. James in Galicia*, whereupon some erroneously have confounded them.

30. *Knights of our Lady, and of St. George of Montesa.*

THIS Order succeeded into the Lands and Possessions of the *Knights Templars* in *Valentia*, as the *Knights Hospitallers* did into those of the *Templars* in *France, Italy,* and *England*; for *James II.* King of *Aragon* and *Valentia*, refusing to give their Revenues to the *Hospitallers* (which as other Princes had done) gave them to the Convent of *Montesa*, where had been placed both Knights and Friars of the Order of *Calatrava*; and excusing himself to *Pope John XXII.* *A. D.* 1317. he instituted this Order in the City *Valentia* (nevertheless subject to that of *Calatrava*) and made choice of the Town of *Montesa*, to give the Knights both Name and Habitation, whom he obliged to defend his Kingdom against the *Moors*. Their College, dedicated to *St. George*, was built the following Year, and their Statutes confirmed by the said *Pope John*, who gave them the *Cistercian* Rule.

Rule. Upon their Habit is White, and the Badge a plain red Cross, which they wear on their Breasts. *A. D.* 1399. the Order of *St. George d' Alfama* was incorporated to it. And the Great Office of Master hereof is in the King of *Spain*, who hath the Revenue of Thirteen Commandaries belonging thereunto to the Value of 23000 Ducats *per annum*.

31. *Knights of Christ in Portugal.*

THESE sprang also from the Ruin of the Knights *Templars*, whose confiscated Estates King *Denys*, surnamed *Penoca*, desired of Pope *John XXII.* might not be disposed out of his Kingdom, in regard of the great Evils the Neighbouring *Moors* in *Algarves*, did his Kingdom; and forasmuch as the Town of *Castro Marin* was a Frontier, and commodious to resist the Enemy, he moved for Licence to institute an Order of Knights therein, and offer'd his Holiness the Rents and Jurisdiction thereof, which accordingly was granted by the Pope, and dedicated it to the Honour of God, and the Exaltation of the Catholick Faith, under the Title of the *Military Order of our Lord Jesus Christ*, as is alledged from the miraculous Apparition of our Saviour crucified, seen by the King when he went out to fight the *Moors*.

32. *Knights of the Passion of Jesus Christ.*

THIS Order was erected by *Charles* King of *France*, (tho' it made no Progress) and our King *Richard II.* with a large Design exceeding all other Religious Orders, except those of *St. John of Jerusalem* and *Knights Templars*. They were to renew the Memory of our Saviour's Passion, to extirpate Pride, Covetousness and Luxury, to make way for the Reconquest of *Jerusalem* and *Palestine*, and for the Subversion and Confusion of Enemies of the Faith. A MSS. in the *Arundelian Library*, reckons up Twenty Causes for the Necessity of its Institution, which are too long to be inserted; and altho' it was dedicated to our Saviour, yet the Blessed Virgin was look'd upon as a principal Mediatrix and Advocate

Advocate of this Holy Chevalry. Their Governments in the principal Convent, were to be debated by Five Councils, in the Presence of the Prince :

1. The *Quoridian* Council, consisting of Twenty-four :
2. The Particular consisting of about Fourty :
3. The Grand Council consisting of Eighty. 4. The General Chapter held every Year. And, 5. The Universal Chapter to be held every Fourth or Sixth Years, consisting of a Thousand Knights of the Chevalry. The Principal Officer was the *Grand Justiciary*, the next the *Grand Bailiff* : In the Chief City, and in every City and Castle of theirs, one was to administer Justice called a *Potestate*. In the general Chapter was to be an Officer called the *Senator*, and in the Universal Chapter a *Dictator* with Coadjutors and Assistants.

In the principal Convent were to be Ten Executors of Justice, and Four styled Charitable Commissaries, whose Office was, to provide for Widows and Orphans ; and whereas this Order was made up of Eight several Languages, and as many Notaries, who put on the Habit of the Brothers ; for the greater Regularity of their Order, they were to bind themselves by Oath to the Observance of these Three Points, Obedience to Sovereigns, Poverty of Spirit, and Conjugal Chastity. They were allotted for their Maintainance, the Possession of Cities, Castles, &c. Gold, Silver, &c. and all to be in common, &c.

There was to belong to the Castle or Principal Convent a Church of marvellous Structure ; it was design'd Fifty Cubits in breadth, without any Pillars, a Hundred Cubits long, and in height Twenty-five ; likewise an Hospital, where the Widows of the Holy Chevalry should attend upon the Sick and Infirm ; a Baptistry or Font, for the Baptizing the Children of the Knights ; a stately Palace, with a great Hall and large Consistories, to contain the Prince and Council with their Retinue ; with a large and delightful Cloister for the Canons and Clerks ; together with a very spacious Palace, to entertain the Princes of the *West* when they came that Way, either to War, or upon Pilgrimage : In *fine*, there was to have been Three chief Halls, wherein they

they might dine together; with distinct Lodgings and Habitations, Wine-Cellars, Granges, Granaries, Stables for Horses and Cattel, Easements, Mills, Cisterns, Baths, and all other Necessaries for the Chevalry. Their Habit was to denote the Passion of Jesus.

THE Dress they were obliged to was a handsome Cloth Coat of a civil Colour, reaching down half way their Legs, and girt with a large Girdle of Silk or Leather Two Fingers broad, the Buckle of Black Horn, the Tongue and Garnishing of the Holes, Tin; to have Red Chaperons or Caps, representing the Blood of our Saviour; over their said Coats, a Mantle of White Cloth or Serge, which from the Shoulders downward was to be open on both Sides along the Arms, and in that Part before the Breast a Cross of red Cloth or Serge Two Fingers broad, extending to the Breadth and Length of that Part of the Mantle; the Cross of the Prince's Mantle was to be edged round with a Gold Fringe about half an Inch broad; there were to be some other small Distinction as to the Shape of the Cross upon the White Habit to be used by this Holy Chevalry. Their Arms in a Banner were *Argent*, upon a *Cross Gules*; a *Compass of Four convex semi-circles, conjoyning Four intervening Angles alternately sable* (in Allusion to the Agony of our Lord) charged with an *Agnus Dei Or, the Compass and Cross both fimbriated Gold, with a little red Bordure*.

IN Times of extraordinary Danger, and great Battles, they were to have another singular and solemn Banner; every Knight was to have his Esquire armed at all Points, a little Valet for his Lance and Helmet, a bigger to carry his Mail, and a third to lead his Sumpster; Five Horses, and Four Servants were to attend him in all Warlike Expeditions, and Two or Three Horses and Servants in all Times of Peace. The Number of these Knights of the *Holy Chevalry* was 1000 or 1100.

33. *The Order of the Brician Knights in Sweden.*

WAS founded, A. D. 1366. by an holy and famous Queen of that Kingdom which they repute St. Bridget, the

the Aim of whose Profession was to oppose Heresy, secure the Confines of the Kingdom, bury the Dead, succour Widows and Fatherless, and to keep up Hospitality. Their chief Ensign was a *Blue Octogonal Cross*, and under it a *Tongue of Fire*, the Symbol of Love and Charity.

34. *Knights of St. Maurice in Savoy.*

THIS Order took its rise upon the Retreat of *Amadeus VIII.* Duke of *Savoy*, into the Desert of *Ripaille*, near the Lake of *Geneva*, and was conferr'd by him, *A. D.* 1434. on Ten of his Courtiers, who retir'd with him, as well as to preserve the Memory of *St. Maurice*, the Patron of *Savoy*. Nine Years after its Institution, the Founder was elected Pope, *A. D.* 1439. and assumed the Name of *Felix V.* Nine Years after that he resigned the Chair, and retir'd to his Solitude in *Ripaille*, where he died, *Jan.* 7. 1451. and lies buried at *Lausanna*. The Order continued not long after his Death; but Duke *Emanuel Philibert* restored it, *A. D.* 1572. and the Dukes of *Savoy* are their Grand Masters.

35. *Knights of the Holy Ghost,*

WERE instituted by Pope *Paul II.* *A. D.* 1468. under the Title of Brethren of the Hospital of the *Holy Ghost*. They wore upon their Habits a *White Cross forme*.

36. *Knights of St. George in Austria and Carinthia.*

THE Emperor *Frederick III.* others say *Rudolphus* of *Hapsburgh*, first Founder of the Greatness of the House of *Austria*, instituted this Order, *A. D.* 1470. chiefly to guard the Frontiers of *Germany*, *Hungary*, *Austria*, *Stiria*, and *Carinthia*, and to suppress the Insolency of the *Turks*, since which these Knights have gallantly behaved themselves. The Great Master was advanc'd to the Honour of a Prince; and the Castle of *Mildstad* in *Carinthia* was given him for his Seat, where was founded

founded a Cathedral Church of Canons, under the Rule of *St. Augustin*. Their Ensign is the Arms of *St. George*, a *red Cross*, and their Habit white; they profess Conjugal Chastity and Obedience, and have the Emperors for their Protectors.

THERE are also *Cavalleros de San Jorge en Alemania*, an Order erected by the Emperor *Maximilian*, 1494. upon the like Design with the former; it was confirmed by Pope *Alexander VI.* and is under the same Profession and Protection as the other. Their Ensign is a *red Cross*, with a *Crown of Gold* on the top of it; they were otherwise called *crowned Knights*; for after they had served a Year, they and their Heirs have a peculiar right of Adorning their Shields and Helms with a Crown; the Occasion was upon a notable Victory obtained against the *Turks*, who confessed that a Man on Horseback supposed to be *St. George*, put them into that Fear and Disorder as to quit the Field.

37. *Knights of St. George at Rome.*

THESE were instituted by *Alexander VI.* 1498. or, as others say, by Pope *Paul III.* at whose Death it became extinct. They dwelt at *Ravenna*, their Province, and were to secure the *Adriatick Sea* from Pyrates.

38. *Knights of St. Peter at Rome.*

POPE *Leo X.* A. D. 1520. instituted this Order to fight against the *Turks*, and defend the Sea Coasts. Their Number was Four Hundred; they wore the Image of *St. Peter* within an Oval of Gold hanging at a Golden Chain.

39. *Knights of St. Paul at Rome,*

WERE instituted by *Paul III.* 1540. and while he was Pope, he made Two Hundred of them. Their Ensign was *St. Paul's Image* hanging at a Golden Chain.

40. *Knights called Pios at Rome.*

POPE *Pius* IV. erected this Order 1560. He created of them at first 375. but they encreased to 535. He granted them very considerable Endowments, and prefer'd them before the Knights of the Empire, and *Malta*, because they were his Courtiers, and had the Charge of carrying his Chair on their Shoulders when he went abroad.

41. *Knights of St. Stephen at Florence.*

THIS Order was founded in imitation of the Knights of *Malta*, 1561. by *Cosmo de Medicis* II. Duke of *Florence*, afterwards first Duke of *Tuscany*, in honour of *St. Stephen*, Pope and Martyr, the Patron of the City of *Florence*, and in memory of the Battle on the 6th of *August*, (*St. Stephens-day*) at *Marciano*, where overthrowing the Assertors of Liberty, he laid the Foundation of his Grandeur. *Pius* IV. confirmed it under the Rule of *St. Benedict*, which was afterwards enlarged with many Emoluments and Privileges, by the succeeding Popes. The Knights vow'd Conjugal Chastity and Charity, in relieving the Afflicted, Obedience to their Masters the Great Dukes of *Tuscany*. The chief Place of their Residence was at *Pisa*, where the Founder erected a Church and Convent, as a Nursery for Persons skilful in Maritime Affairs, but since it is transferred to *Cosmopoli* in the Isle of *Ilva*. Their Habit is a long Mantle of White Chamlet trimmed with Red, and on the left part of their Breast a Cross (like that of *Malta*) of red or crimson Satin border'd with Gold; it is daily worn on their Cloaks, and on their Military Garments, and about their Necks in a Ribbon on Festival Days. This Order (like the *Maltese*) also consists of Knights, Priests and Servants. The Priests wear the Cross of red Taffaty without a Bordure, the Servants the Cross of *St. Anthony* only. The Statutes were reformed by *Ferdinand* Duke of *Tuscany*, Son to the Founder, and approv'd, 1590.

42. *Knights of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus in Savoy.*

POPE Gregory XIII. having, at the Request of *Emanuel Philibert*, Duke of *Savoy*, restor'd the Order of *St. Lazarus*, and the Order of *St. Maurice*, A. D. 1572. and constituted this Duke Grand Master, the same Year, for their greater Honour, he united them under the Title of *St. Maurice and St. Lazarus*, and appointed the Dukes of *Savoy* Hereditaries and Masters, and oblig'd them to furnish out two Gallies for the Service of the Papal See, to be employ'd against Pyrates. Upon this Union, the Knights had assign'd them for Habit a Gown of Crimson Tabby, with wide Sleeves, a long Train, and edg'd with white Taffaty, and a Cordon with a Tassel of White and Green fix'd to the Collar. The Badge is, *A green Cross ancree of St. Laurence, plac'd Saltirewise, surmounted with the white Cross pornelle of St. Maurice*, which the Knights wear either in a Gold Chain, or any colour'd Ribbon. And the said Duke founded for the Knights two fair Convents, one at *Nice*, the other at *Turin*, and bestow'd on them all the Revenues within his Territories, formerly appertaining to the Order of *St. Lazarus*. The Dukes of *Savoy*, as Grand Masters, use this Title.

43. *Knights of Loretto.*

THIS Order, about the Year 1587. was instituted by *Sixtus V.* who erected the Church of our Lady at *Loretto* into a Cathedral and Bishop's See, and gave the Knights for their Ensign, *the Image of our Lady of Loretto*, hung in a Gold Chain. This is not quite extinguish'd.

44. *Knights of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel.*

THO' the Grand Mastership of *St. Lazarus*, and its Commandaries in all Dominions, were confirm'd by Pope Gregory XIII. upon the House of *Savoy*, yet under King Henry

Henry III. some Knights in France, of that Order, refus'd to joyn with their Fellows, under the Obedience of the Duke of Savoy. King Henry IV. desirous to have a new order, bearing the Denomination of *The Blessed Virgin*, &c. apply'd himself to Pope Paul V. and obtain'd what he su'd for A. D. 1608. (besides other Pensions out of certain Ecclesiastical Benefices in France) the Commandaries and Hospitals of St. Lazarus in that Kingdom, and the Knights of St. Lazarus that remain'd in France, were incorporated with them under two Titles; their Seal being inscrib'd, *Sigillum Ordinis & Militiæ Mariæ Virginis de Monte Carmeli, & Sancti Lazari in Hierusalem*. The Order consists of One Hundred choice French Gentlemen, whose Offices are to attend on the King in every warlike Expedition. They vow Chastity and Obedience, and profess to fight against the Enemies of the Romish See. The Feast of the Patroness is the 16th of July; Philibert Nerefang, a valiant Knight of St. Lazarus, was elected their first Master 1608. Their Badge is a Cross of 8 Points of tawny Velvet or Sattin, with a white Border sow'd on the left Side of their Cloaks, and the Image of the Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel plac'd in the Middle, within a Rundle encompass'd with Rays of Gold. They also wear about their Necks, in a tawny Silk Ribbon, the like Cross of Gold; but the Image of the said Knights is enamel'd on both Sides. Their Investiture is like that of Malta.

45. Knights of the most Glorious Virgin Mary of Rome.

A. D. 1618. Pedro, John Baptista, and Bernardo, surnam'd *Perrignaneos* (three Brethren of Spelta in Italy) invented this Order: To which was added, the Rule of St. Francis d'Assise, whereof the Popes are Great Masters. Paul V. confirm'd them, and gave these Knights the Palace of St. John Lateran for their Convent, and the City and Port of *Civita Vecchia* to make their Arsenal; with an Island adjacent, together with the Government of his Gallies. Their Institution was for the Exaltation of the Roman Church, and to check or suppress the

the *Turks* roving in the Mediterranean. There are three Sorts of this Order, 1. *Knights Gentlemen*, Laicks. 2. *Knights Gentlemen*, Priests and benefic'd. 3. *Knights Chaplains*, or *Servants of Arms*. All of these wear on the left Side of their Mantles their Badge, which is a *blew Cross floree Azure*, border'd with *Silver*, having 4 *Mullets*, or *Stars*, at the End of each Flower, to signifie the Four *Evangelists*; in the Middle is a Circle (extended round underneath the Arms of the Cross) set with 12 Rays for the 12 *Apoffles*, inscrib'd, *In hoc signo vincam*; and within it (taking up the Center of the Cross) is a *Cypher of M. S.* i. e. *Sancta Maria*, crown'd with *Chaplets of Flowers*, and *Stars of Gold* set over the *Chapel*.

46. *Knights of the Annunciade, and St. Michael the Archangel in Mantua, or of the Christian Militia in Moravia.*

By these Names they have been promiscuously called. It was instituted 1618. by *Charles Gonzaga*, Duke of *Mantua* and *Nevers*, in Conjunction with *Adolph*, Count of *Altham* his Brother, and *John Baptist Pettrignan Sfortia*. To give it the greater Lustre, they divided the World among them; *Charles* took the North and West Parts, *Adolph* the Eastern, and the other had the South, where they were personally to found Convents and invest Knights. Duke *Charles* began his Institution of this Order under the Rule of *St. Francis*, in *Olmutz* the Metropolis of *Moravia*, the Year aforesaid, and dedicated it to the blessed *Virgin* and *St. Michael*: But what Progress the others made in their pious Resolutions, History is silent. It has been likewise styl'd, *Conceptionis Ordo et Militis Virginis annunciatæ*. Anno 1612. several illustrious Princes of divers Countries entered themselves into that Order at *Vienna*. It was approv'd by Pope *Paul V.* and confirm'd by Pope *Paul VIII.* 1624, The Design of its Institution was, to establish Peace and Concord among Christian Princes and their Subjects; to release Captives, and deliver the Oppressed out of the Hands of the Infidels.

On some unhappy Difference among the illustrious Founders, in a short time it moulder'd away and became

ineffectual, that the Mahometans (for whose Destruction it was design'd) heard only the Report of it.

C A P. III.

§ 1. **H**AVING particulariz'd the Religious Orders, I shall proceed to those accounted absolutely Military. Among them,

1. *Knights of the Round Table may, for Antiquity, challenge the first Place.*

The Founder was *Arthur King of Britain*, crown'd in the Year of our Lord 516, at the Age of 15 Years; of whose incredible Courage and Gallantry, tho' some have stretch'd too far, yet *William of Malmesbury* is of Opinion, he was worthy to have been celebrated by true and faithful Historians, and not false and spurious Tales. He it was that long prop'd up his declining Country, and inspir'd Martial Courage into his Subjects, the *Saxons*, in twelve pitch'd Battles having overcome, and conquer'd divers Countries. He liv'd in so great Repute and Renown, that worthy Knights came from all Parts to his Court, as a Seminary of Military Discipline, to demonstrate their Valour in point of Arms. This gave him Occasion to select out of these, and his own Subjects, some say Twenty Four of the most Valiant, which he united in a Fellowship; and to avoid all Controversy upon Precedency, caus'd a Round Table to be made, whence the Order had its Appellation. He admitted not only *Britains*, but Strangers; and their Qualifications were to be Persons of Nobility, Dignity, and renown'd for Vertue and Valour. The Place where they were instituted was *Windfor*; and those others of Note, where he and his Knights assembled, were at *Caerleon* in *Monmouthshire*, *Winchester*, and *Camelot* in *Com' Somerset*; and their time of convening was *Whitsuntide*. In *Winchester* Castle was a large Round Table, call'd (and affirm'd to be) King *Arthur's*;