

OF THE
ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD
IN
POLAND.

VOL. II.

G

OF THE
ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

IN

P O L A N D

Vol. II

P O L A N D.

THE ORDER

O F T H E

W H I T E E A G L E.

THIS Order was first instituted in the year 1325, by Uladislaus V. but having soon fallen into disuse, it lay in oblivion until the year 1705, when Augustus Elector of Saxony and King of Poland revived it, in order to use as an instrument to attach to his own interest and person several of the Polish nobility, who he feared were inclined to Stanislaus his competitor. At its revival it was highly esteemed, and was conferred on the Czar Peter the Great and Grand Duke of Russia. The Knights of this Order commonly wear the badge pendent to a broad blue ribbon worn fash-ways from the right shoulder and under the left arm, and a star of

eight points embroidered in gold and silver alternately on the left side of their outer garment. The collar is composed of eagles displayed, and annulets linked together, having pendent to it the badge, which is a cross of eight points enamelled, Gold, bordered white and cantoned with a smaller cross having a bead on each point, charged on one side with an eagle white displayed, having over its head an imperial crown, and on the reverse the King's cypher with this motto, *Pro fide, rege, lege.*

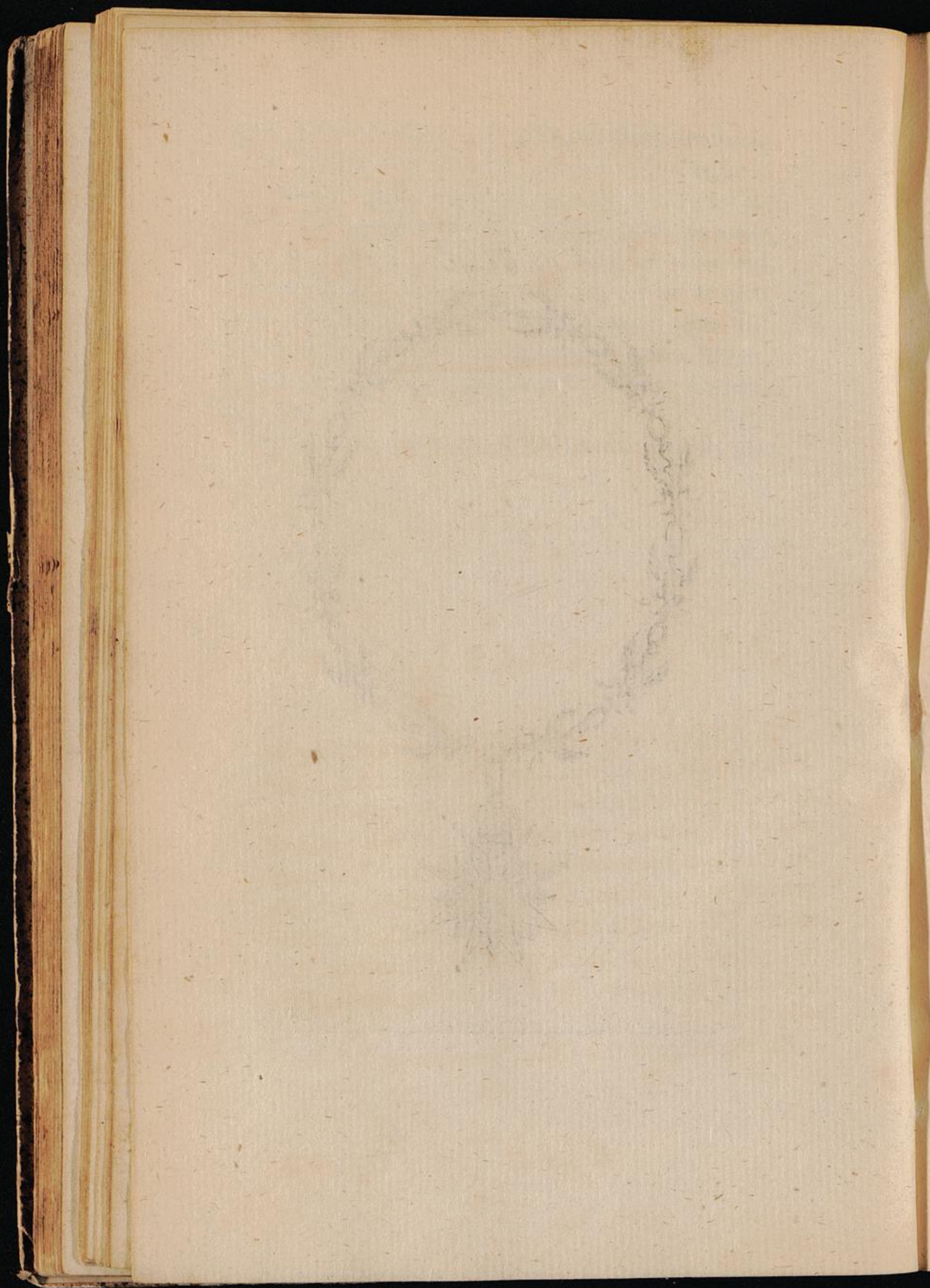
For the collar and badge of this Order, see plate 51.

PALES.

White Eagle

51





P O L A N D.

THE ORDER

O F

S T. S T A N I S L A U S.

THIS Order was instituted by the present King of Poland in the year 1765, soon after his election to the crown. The badge of it is a gold cross enamelled red, and on the centre of it a medallion with the image of St. Stanislaus enamelled in proper colours. It is worn pendent to a broad red ribbon watered and edged with white. The star of the Order is silver, and in the centre is a cypher of the letters, S. A. R. [Stanislaus Augustus Rex], encircled by the following motto, *Premiando incitat.*

For the badge of this Order, see plate 52.

P O L A N D .

THE ORDER

of

S T A N I S L A U S .

THIS Order was instituted by the present King of Poland in the year 1765, soon after his election to the crown. The badge of it is a gold cross enamelled red, and on the centre of it a medallion with the image of St. Stanislaus enamelled in proper colours. It is worn pendant to a broad red ribbon twisted and edged with white. The fan of the Order is blue, and in the centre is a cypher of the letters, S. A. R. [Stanislaus Augustus Rex] enclosed by the following motto, *Præstantia vincit.*

For the badge of this Order, see plate 22.

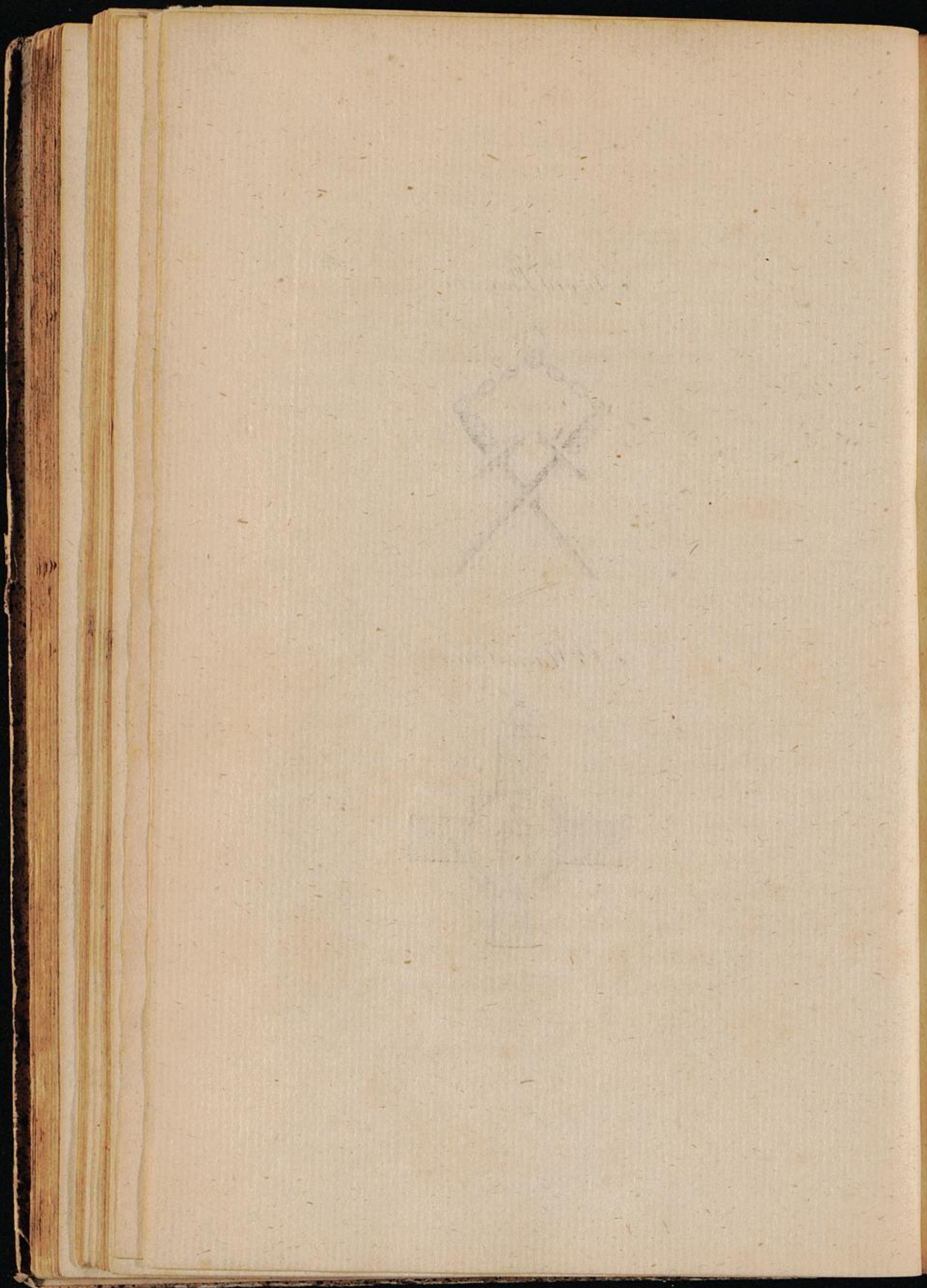
Sword Bearers

52



S. Stanislaus





P O L A N D.

THE ORDER

O F

CHRIST IN LIVONIA,

O R O F T H E

S W O R D B E A R E R S.

IN the year 1186, *Mainard* first preached Christianity to the Livonians, and erected the bishoprick of Riga; but his successors meeting with many difficulties in the year 1200, *Albert* then bishop of Livonia instituted this Order in imitation of the Teutonick Knights, 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 two swords in saltire, whence they had the title of Brethren Sword-Bearers. For the badge of the Order, see plate 52.

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 could not of themselves accomplish their end about the year 1237, they were united to the Teutonick 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 Pletemberg, their Great Master, separated this Order from their obedience to the Teutonick. Finally, A. D. 1561, *Gothard de Ketter*, the last Great Master, followed the example of the Great Master of Prussia, became subject to the crown of Poland, surrendering to King Sigismund II. the city and castle of Riga, and all the lands, charters, privileges, &c. of this Order, receiving in exchange the dukedom of Courland, to him and his heirs for ever ; so the Order expired after 357 years continuance.