

**SUMMARY OF ADDRESSES TO THE CANADIAN
CLUB AT OTTAWA, VANCOUVER & HALIFAX**

BY

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Imagine a tented encampment outside the walls of Jerusalem in the early days of the Crusades. Over the mosques and minarets of the Holy City floats the Crescent, and over the Camp floats the Cross. On an open space near one of the gates the Red Cross Knights are tilting at the Paynims, politely thrusting at each other, or hacking each other to pieces according to the approved laws of chivalry; for though religious fervour inspired the crusades it was no uncivilised foe the Christian Knights were fighting, and strong friendships were often formed during the campaigns between the knights of the opposing parties.

Take for your second picture, Jerusalem under its Christian conquerors. You will see moving about the narrow streets among the motley throng of easterners and westerners knightly figures clad in long black cloaks with white crosses embroidered upon them. These are the same Red Cross Knights who in times of peace have established hospitals for the sick poor, and an order of chivalry called the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, or Knights Hospitallers, and who with the serving brothers may be seen carrying sick folk to their hospitals and there tending them irrespective of creed or colour with the best of Christian care according to the lights of those days. And here is an interesting point which it is worth bearing in mind in the brief historical sketch before us, namely, that the same order of Knighthood which in war time bore the Red Cross, in times of peace bore the White Cross, on a black ground, which was even then the cognizance of the knights of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, whose duties in times of peace were to feed and clothe the poor and to take care of them in case of accidents and sickness.