

The ancient Military Templars, when engaged in war on the arid plains of Palestine, for lightness, used helmets of chain steel links, carried usually at the saddle-bow when not in action, replaced by a close-fitting red cloth skull-cap, to which a coif was attached, or the hood of the mantle drawn over it. This cap is now the form of the "Biretta" of the ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Romish Church, and represented also by the red cap seen in portraits of the ancient Grand Master, or the heraldic "Cap of Dignity," worn on what are called Collar Days by the nobility of the Empire with their robes on State occasions.

IN CONCLUSION.

The Dependencies of the British crown in India, China, the Cape Colony, Australia, New Zealand and the Mediterranean, hold Preceptories under the Great Priory of England, where formerly *concurrent jurisdiction* with Scotland and Ireland existed, but which was disputed by the English Grand Body claiming to be the ruling power, no other governing body having authority in a British colony.

In Victoria, South Australia, the Independent Great Priory founded there by this Great Priory, we must all feel gratified to learn, is in a very prosperous condition, although still, with ourselves, unrecognized by that of England. Personally I poignantly regret that a misapprehension in the first instance on my part of concurrent jurisdiction existing there, led to the old kindly relations with the Mother Grand Body being severed. This is not as it should be (?) if for a moment we consider the ancient precepts and principles of the order, which the old chronicles of early times thus pointedly and quaintly define:—"The defence of religion became the office and pride of the old nobility and the orders of knighthood,—the duty of a Knight was to maintain the Catholic faith. The cross of Christ was no sooner lifted up as a standard under which the defenders of the faith were to rally than all Europe was united in a bond of brotherhood to testify their love for the Saviour of mankind, and to protect from insult and injury the persecuted servants of that Saviour."

The Catholic faith being the very basis of the character which belonged to a Knight—everyone conversant with the chivalric usages must recollect that the highest glory was to be called "A Verie Knight, and servant of Jesus Christ." The teachings, then, of true Knights Templary, are a transcript of God's word as rendered by the sacred volume, expressed in symbolic language and carried out in life. Its