

**THE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF  
ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM; BEING  
A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH  
HOSPITALLERS OF ST. JOHN,  
THEIR RISE AND PROGRESS**

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The Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem; Being a History of the English Hospitallers of St. John, Their Rise and Progress by W. K. R. Bedford & Richard Holbeche

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**W. K. R. BEDFORD & RICHARD HOLBECHE**

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THE ORDER  
OF THE HOSPITAL OF  
**St. John of Jerusalem**

BEING  
A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH HOSPITALLERS  
OF ST. JOHN, THEIR RISE AND PROGRESS

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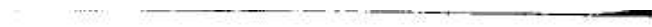
## PREFACE

THE Editor desires to say a few, a very few, words of preface by way of explanation of the origin and object of the present volume.

Its inception commenced with a successful illustrated lecture delivered by Major Yate at the United Service Institution, which he wished the Order to reprint for general publication. The Council thought it expedient that the narrative should be somewhat enlarged, and circumstances preventing Major Yate from superintending the work, it was intrusted by the Council to the Genealogist, who again found it somewhat beyond his powers, and had to apply to the Librarian for assistance, especially in the later and more immediately interesting portions of the narrative, though retaining the general supervision of the whole.

The Editor would adopt as his own the apology of the author of the books of Maccabees: "If I have done well, and as is fitting the story, it is that which I desired; but if slenderly and meanly, it is that which I could attain unto."

Mr. H. W. Fincham has greatly assisted the work by his artistic photographs, as Mr. W. D. Scull has done by several drawings, and to Mr. Howe the book is indebted for the interesting figures from Siena.



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