

hand is a ring, and on the left arm a little above the wrist is the riband of the Order of the Garter." This is not, however, the only sculptured demonstration of the manner in which lady companions of the Order wore its badge; for the tomb of the Countess of Tankerville, and that of Lady Harcourt at Staunton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, represent the Order as worn on the left arms, respectively, of these ladies also. So far as the researches of the author to whom I am indebted for this information have led him to believe, these three are the sole existing monumental illustrations of the wearing of the Garter by women. No reason that I have been able to ascertain has ever been assigned for the discontinuance to women of a distinction which for so long a period they shared alike with men. It entailed no unfeminine duties, and the decoration worn as a bracelet was in every respect suitable and becoming.

The "Royal Order of Victoria and Albert" was instituted by H.M. the Queen on Feb. 10th, 1862, and consists of a jewelled badge containing the faces in profile of Her Majesty and the Prince Consort. It is suspended to a

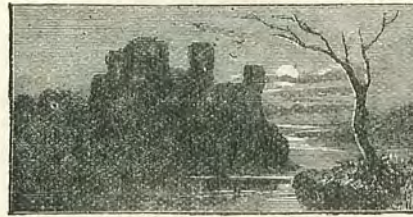
white moiré ribbon, one and a half inches broad, fringed, and tied in a loose flat bow, an ornamental chain attached to the badge passing over the flat knot. There are three classes of this Order, the first class comprising the members of the Royal Family only.

Another Order, designed to commemorate the assumption by the Queen of her imperial title, is that of "The Crown of India." And here I take the opportunity of observing that in so doing Her Majesty only assumed the true designation of her real rank and position. The sovereigns of this great empire have been miscalled "kings" and "queens" for many centuries past, just because these latter titles are of greater antiquity, and, as such, invested with historical interest, prefixed as they were to the immortal names of some of the greatest monarchs that ever reigned. It is only correct that the supreme head of an empire and an imperial parliament should bear her true title of "Empress." This was a self-evident fact to her great and illustrious prime minister at that time, and the institution of two orders was the natural result, *i.e.*, the "Imperial Order of the Star of India" for men, and the "Imperial

Order of the Crown of India" for women. The badge consists of a medallion containing the cipher "V. R. and I." in pearls, diamonds, and turquoises, encircled by a border set with pearls, and surmounted by the Imperial crown, jewelled and enamelled in proper colours. This is attached to a flat bow of light blue watered ribbon, edged with white, one and a half inches in width, and fringed. The Order was inaugurated Jan. 1st, 1878, and consists of the Royal Family, the wives and relatives of princes of the Indian Empire, of members of the Imperial household, and of any of the persons who have held or still hold offices of state, of the Governors of Madras and Bombay, and of the principal Secretary of State, and other ladies, as Her Majesty may see fit.

In conclusion, I may be permitted to correct a trifling mistake made in my first article with reference to the picture by Giorgione (Barbarelli) of the "Cavalière di Malta." The knight holds, not his sword hilt, but a rosary. Giorgione flourished between the years 1477 and 1511.

(To be continued.)



A DANISH SOCIETY FOR THE "PROMOTION OF SIMPLICITY AND MODESTY IN DRESS."



may interest many to learn the purpose and rules of the above association, although it will be the few only, in all probability, who will think of obeying its mandates here in England, unless a connection with a nursing institution, or

a similar society, has already stemmed the tide of desire to emulate the ever-increasing extravagance of the present day.

Denmark is anything but a rich country, but even in Denmark the dress mania had reached a great height a few years since, when the beautiful Countess Moltke stepped forward to try, by precept and example, to raise her countrywomen's eyes to higher objects of admiration than gold and pearls, or the putting on of apparel. As the Danish writer of the preamble to the rules says—

"There is no doubt that many an earnest-minded person has long sighed to see the increasing luxury in dress, the extravagant finery, with its tendency to increased frivolity, which is growing ever more and more common amongst us, and spreading from the highest to the lowest, till there is one general struggle throughout society, the one not to be outdone by the other in display. Women with hard-working husbands and slender purses display themselves in splendid attire, while servants and factory girls spend the last penny of their

wages for fine clothes, nay, even sell themselves to buy the finery which brings them into the extremity of shame and misery.

"But if the passion for show is a snare for all, then it seems to us particularly scandalous for Christian women to forget the responsibility they bear towards the world, and instead of letting their light shine forth to the glory of God their Father, to find them actually conforming to it, and voluntarily allowing themselves to be entangled in its toils and bewilderments. Can it be that they have never heard the Apostle's warning—'Whose adorning, let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, and of putting on of apparel,' or have they forgotten it? In this case it is indeed high time that voices were raised with a reminder for them.

"We, therefore, the undersigned women, call upon those of our Christian sisters who hold the same views on this subject as ourselves, to unite with us in forming an association for the promotion of simplicity and modesty in dress.

"Women entering the association do not bind themselves by any vow, neither is there any yearly contribution claimed. The only payment to be made is that of one mark and a half (1s. 8d.), charged on entrance for the badge of the association."

RULES.

"On entering the association the members receive the badge of the union, a small silver cross to be worn on the left breast, in order to intimate to our friends, when we visit at their houses, that it is out of no disrespect to them that we enter their doors in plainer attire than custom at present seems to demand. But the wearing of this badge is optional.

"2. We do not at all wish to promote a

narrow-minded spirit of judgment of others, but only to point out, in broad lines, what we consider our own aim as Christian women should be, and we feel convinced that the woman who attaches herself to our association will not only feel herself more independent and happy, but will also bear herself more bravely in the world.

"3. Without attempting to enumerate the many absurd inventions and devices of the changing fashions, we presume that everyone entering the association will understand for herself that she should not submit to them. Indeed, it might justly have been supposed that the personal feeling, in each Christian's heart, would have been strong enough to dictate a suitability in dress, and, above all, a modesty. Sadly enough, such is not always the case; we have therefore found it needful to publish, at any rate, the following few guides for the attire of those who enrol themselves in our ranks.

"4. No dresses of silk or velvet to be worn, with the one exception in favour of black silk. No imitation flowers; no birds' feathers. Members not to wear dresses that leave the neck and arms bare; and to discard jewellery and other needless ornaments, as also to refrain from having the hair artificially cut and curled upon the forehead, after the fashion so prevalent at the present day.

"We, the undersigned, reserve to ourselves the right to add to our rules if, as time goes on, it should appear necessary or expedient to do so.

"M. MOLTKE (Countess),
President.

S. Bartholdy, H. Brunn, F. Cohn, M. Goldstein, F. Keyper, E. Jessin, D. Schröder, M. Ussing."
"All ladies of position."—Translator.)