

(2).

TITLE.:- KNIGHTS OF THE THISTLE.

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Picture.: Once a year His Majesty the King, Sovereign of this historic order, commands the holding of divine service for the brethren of the Order, in the Thistle Chapel at St. Giles Cathedral. Preceded by Heralds the twelve Knights proceed in stately and dignified procession to the Chapel. The Most Noble and Most Ancient Order of the Thistle was founded in 1687 by James II, and dedicated to St. Andrew. It is on the Saint's Day that this service takes place. Originally the Order consisted of the Sovereign and eight Knights Companions, but it fell into abeyance only a year after its foundation. It was however, revived by Queen Anne in 1703, and it was ordained that the number of Knights be increased. This visit to St. Giles Cathedral is a time-honoured custom, and only very serious considerations, such as ill health, prevent any of the brethren of the Order being present.