

England - A Knight Templar



A Knight Templar, from a drawing in Charles Knight's *Old England*, v. I, 1845. The bearded knight is wearing a cloak decorated with the cross, and a tunic over what appears to be chainmail. He is grasping his sword in its scabbard and is holding a rod with a sign of the cross at its tip. A knight on horseback with a spear and a shield is in the background, and far in the distance is a Middle Eastern town. The Knights Templar were an order of knights founded around 1119 by Hughes de Payens to protect pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem after Europeans had conquered it during the First Crusade. The order was disbanded in the early 1300s due to controversial accusations of heresy, (1913).

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