

which is left unmarked. With the help of the drawings, we can interpret the blazons, or heraldic descriptions of the arms.

*Ontario.* By warrant dated the 26th of May, 1868, nearly a year after the confederation of the provinces, Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, "of her princely grace and special favour," granted to the Province of Ontario the following armorial ensigns: Vert, a sprig of three Leaves of Maple slipped Or; on a Chief Argent the Cross of St. George. Which means that the shield is of vert, and the maple leaves of or; that is, the shield green and the maple leaves gold. The word slipped refers to the stem, and means cut off diagonally. It is a good example of the brevity of heraldic terms, which, to one who has learned their use, are as beautifully concise and clear as are those of botany. The chief is the upper part of the shield. In this instance it is argent, silver; and it bears the Cross of St. George, which, as everybody knows, is red. The maple leaf is a well known Canadian emblem, and had been used with other emblems on the coinage of the old Province of Canada. St. George's Cross may be supposed to refer to the Loyalist settlers, or merely to British connection. Certainly it adds dignity and beauty to the design. (I have taken the liberty of making the maple leaves in the illustration more true to nature than they are in the official drawing; and, I think, with no loss in beauty of outline.)

*Quebec.* The official description of the arms of Quebec reads: Or, on a Fess Gules, between two Fleurs-de-lis in chief Azure and a sprig of three Leaves of Maple slipped Vert in base, a Lion passant gardant Or. The first word, or, tells us that the shield is of gold. The fess is the bar across the middle of the shield. It is of gules, red; and the lion is or, as in the royal arms of England. Passant means walking; gardant means facing the observer. Three golden lilies on a field azure were the royal arms of France. To Quebec, then, are fittingly assigned two lilies of France with the colours reversed, the third fleur-de-lis being replaced by the maple leaves of Canada. The shield is honoured and further adorned by the fess with a lion of England; the whole saying as clearly as could be expressed in words that the province is a French province in Canada which the Queen deigned especially to honour by the grant of a lion from the royal arms. This grant of arms and the two next following were included in the same warrant with that of the arms of Ontario.

*Nova Scotia.* Or, on a Fess wavy Azure, between three Thistles proper, a Salmon naiant Argent. The fess wavy azure, suggesting the blue sea, may refer to the maritime position of the province, or to its being a portion of Her Majesty's dominions beyond the sea. The salmon, the noblest of fishes, is an appropriate device which needs no strained interpretation, and probably had no deeper meaning than that of belonging to the sea. It is argent, silver, for the sake of contrast with the blue. Naiant means swimming. The thistles are proper; that is, are painted in their true colours. Their use in this connection is not new, for a thistle appeared on the copper coinage of Nova Scotia as early as 1823; undoubtedly suggested by the name of the province, the thistle being a well known badge of old Scotland.

*New Brunswick.* Or, on Waves a Lymphad or Ancient Galley with oars in action proper; on a Chief Gules a Lion passant gardant Or. On the reverse of the old coins of New Brunswick there is a full rigged ship at anchor. Its most obvious meanings are maritime position and commercial enterprise. The lymphad or galley, whether suggested by the coins or not, is the heraldic equivalent of the ship, and conveys the same meaning. A picture of things as they are is as much out of place in a coat of arms as in a stained glass window; and the galley and waves, therefore, to be satisfactory, must not be too pictorial. They are officially described—to use the right word, blazoned—as above. The galley having oars in action, we should expect the sail to be furled. In the official drawing which accompanies the description, however, the sail is spread and filled with a head wind. Though the two ends of the galley are so nearly alike, we know which is the fore, under the general rule that everything which has a head or fore part, whether advancing or not, must be represented as heading towards that side of the escutcheon which we regard as the first or more honourable. Flags and sail and waves in the drawing indicate that the wind is blowing from that direction. The waves fill the whole width of the shield, and are of a bluish green; the galley is black, the flags red, and the sail brown. The province having been named in honour of the ruling dynasty, the House of Brunswick, it was quite appropriate that it should have in chief a lion of England.

*The Dominion.* In the same warrant it was ordered that the arms of the Dominion of Canada should be composed of "the arms of the said four