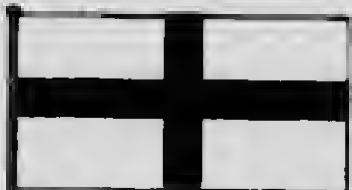


BRITISH FLAG



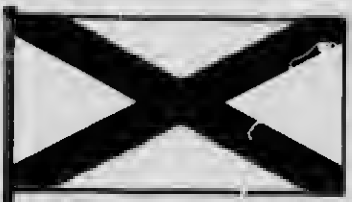
SCOTTISH JACK—ST. ANDREW'S CROSS.
987

The same honour has been accorded St. Andrew in Scotland as St. George in England. According to tradition, the saint, deeming it far too great an honour to be crucified as was his Lord, gained from his persecutors the concession to this variation, namely, a saltire instead of a Latin cross. After his martyrdom his remains were preserved as relics, and a Greek monk, having been warned in a vision to carry these away in a ship, was wrecked on the shores of Caledonia (Scotland), about A.D. 370. Achillus, King of the Scots, went barefoot and vowed to adopt the saint's cross as the national emblem. A.D. 987.



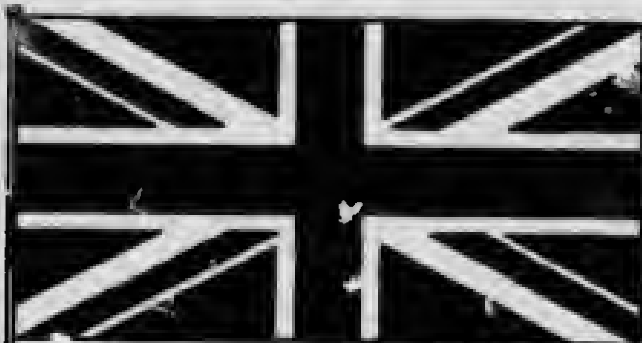
ENGLISH JACK—ST. GEORGE'S CROSS.
1194 OR 1274

St. George has been the patron saint, and his emblem, the national emblem of England for over six centuries. It is thought by some to have been used since 1194, after the third great Crusade, when the troops of Richard Cœur de Lion won a gallant victory near the grotto where the great Christian hero St. George, the legend says, "redeemed the king's daughter out of the jaws of a dread'd dragon." St. George's emblem, a Greek Cross of the national colour red, was, not generally accepted till 1274.



IRISH JACK—ST. PATRICK'S CROSS.
1606

St. Patrick was the Christian apostle of the Irish and became their patron saint. Legends date back to 411, but it has been suggested as most probable that the X-like form of the cross was derived from the sacred monogram on the Labarum of Constantine the Great where the X is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ. It was under this emperor that the Christians were rescued from persecution in Britain, and this symbolic meaning of the form might readily have been adopted in the early Churches, thus becoming associated with the Christian labours of St. Patrick in Ireland. It was finally adopted as the general national emblem about 1600.



THE UNION JACK

The Union Jack, the grand old "Meteor Flag" of the British Isles, the banner of freedom and liberty, which in one form or another has "breved a thousand years, the hettle and the breeze," is the flag of the entire British Empire, which all of whose citizens have the right to fly; hence it is the flag of Canada. In itself it tells the story of the evolution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Union Jack is formed by the union of the Crosses of St. George, for England, St. Andrew for Scotland, and St. Patrick, for Ireland. Before the United Kingdom came into being, and when the three kingdoms were separate, the flag of England was the banner of St. George, a red cross on a white field. In 1603 King James the Sixth of Scotland became also King James the First of England. Three years later, on April 12th, 1606, the banner of St. George was amalgamated with the banner of St. Andrew, a white diagonal cross on a blue field. This combination obtained the name of Union Jack, in allusion to the union of the Crowns of England and Scotland. The word Jack is usually considered a corruption of the word Jacobus, Jacques or James, but this is quite fanciful, as "Jacks" were used before the Union. Upon the parliamentary Union of England and Scotland, May 1, 1707, the Union Jack became the flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain. This arrangement continued until the parliamentary Union with Ireland, on January 1, 1801, when the banner of St. Patrick, a diagonal red cross on a white field, was amalgamated with it, and the Union Jack as we now know it became the flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The Union Jack may be flown by all British subjects, private or official, everywhere on land. The red ensign, so often flown in Canada, is the merchant marine flag; and the Union Jack is the only proper flag to be flown in Canada ashore. In hoisting the Union Jack, the point to be remembered is that the wide white arm above the red must be placed next to the top of the pole.