

white, which is quite commonplace. The proclamation states that the maple leaves shall be proper, that is, of form and colour as in nature and on a white field—but the artist has painted on a pale green field three leaves that are not “proper” in grouping, shape, or colour. They are hardly recognizable as maple leaves. Maple leaves vary in form for the forty different varieties of maple—there is the soft maple, the Norwegian maple, the Japanese and many others; but surely the only one proper for the emblem of Canada is the hard Canadian sugar or rock maple known botanically as *acer saccharum*.

In the shield in the fly of some of the Canadian red ensigns now flying, the maple leaves of Canada are shown in green—but the device long carried to distinguish the province of Quebec or corroborated by provincial order in council of 9th Dec., 1939, is described as “a sugar-maple sprig with three leaves veined vert”, which is green. So that three green maple leaves is the signal “Province of Quebec”.

I have recently seen a cap badge of the arms of Canada in metal and enamel. In the base of the shield are three maple leaves conjoined on one stem, in gold on a green field. That is the special distinguishing device assigned to the province of Ontario by Royal Warrant of 26th May, 1868. The wording is “vert (i.e. on a green background) a sprig of three leaves of maple, or (i.e. in gold or yellow)”. So that three golden maple leaves have been the proper signal for “province of Ontario” for the past seventy-seven years.

A still more recent instance: you have all seen the service badge worn by those who have served in the armed forces of Canada in the years 1939 to 1945. The badge as first issued carried a device of three maple leaves in red enamel on a white shield with the royal crown above. That is the proper national symbol in the assigned national colours. This badge has been superseded by one in which the maple leaves are black, so that the colours are now silver or white and black, which have been for five centuries the national colours of Prussia.

A notable heraldic lapse occurred in the case of the arms of Nova Scotia, whose present coat dates from about 1625. But in 1868 these arms were overlooked and other arms were assigned by royal proclamation and used as the provincial arms until the original armorial ensigns were restored by a Royal Warrant on 19th June, 1929, a lapse of over sixty years.

Strange liberties have been taken with the ensigns armorial of Canada: on the certificate issued to subscribers to the ninth victory loan, the arms of royal France are shown as red fleurs-de-lis on a white field. On the licence to sell war savings stamps the field of the Irish coat is shown in red, and a Canadian canning company has registered as its trade mark the ensigns armorial of the dominion with the national device gold maple leaves on a red field. Superimposed on the shield is a yellow disc bearing the initials of the company in black. This is not good heraldic practice.

Next I would give you an

(14) *Historical Review of French and British Flags with remarks on the Fleur-de-Lis*

ROYAL ARMS OF FRANCE:

French explorers discovered and opened up seven or eight of the nine provinces.

Here is the historical record of the Provinces, dates and names:

Quebec, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, 1534 Cartier.

Nova Scotia, 1535 Cartier, followed by De Monts and Champlain 1604, and Poutrincourt 1610.

Ontario 1611 Brulé, 1613 Champlain, 1670 Dollier and Galinée, 1634 Nicolet, 1640 Chaumonot and Brébeuf, 1641 Raimbault and Jogues.

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, 1731-1743 La Vérendrye, 1751 de Niverville.