

thority of the Canadian Government, which government having, in 1870, acquired all the titles to the North-West Territories, held by the Hudson's Bay Company, proceeded to extinguish the Indian titles. Therefore, in 1871, a Commission was appointed by which during the seven years that followed seven treaties, numbered from one to seven, were drawn up, by means of which the larger part of the great Canadian wheat belt was thrown open to settlers. In a report of the proceedings of "Treaty Number One," W. M. Simpson, one of the commissioners, states that: "In addition to this, each chief was to receive a dress, a flag and a medal, as marks of distinction. (1) No special medal was struck for the first of these treaties, but a stock medal of the medium size, procured from the Messrs. Wyon, of London, was given to the signing Chiefs. This medal, of a kind usually awarded as school or agricultural prizes, has for obverse the Queen's head, and, for reverse, a wreath of oak leaves. It was awarded for treaties number one and two. But these were not deemed sufficiently large for the chiefs, so, in 1872, an order was given to Mr. R. Hendry, a silversmith of Montreal, to make twenty-five medals, according to a design furnished him by the department at Ottawa. This design consisted of the medal, struck in 1867, to commemorate the confederation of the provinces, with a margin added bearing, on the obverse, the inscription "Dominion of Canada Chiefs Medal," and

(1) "The Treaties of Canada with the Indians of the North-West." Morris, Toronto, 1880, page 39.