

possesses half the carrying power of the world. Her Union Jack, which now floats over more than three hundred million people "comes to us as the record of the growth of a great Christian nation, and traces through centuries of adventure and progress the gradual development by the British people of constitutional government over a worldwide empire."

Three years after the union of the two Kingdoms, *i.e.*, in 1606, a new ensign was used by order of James I in which the cross of St. George was blended with the white diagonal cross, on a blue ground, of St. Andrew, patron saint of Scotland. As first in the Union, it occupies the place of honor in the upper quartering nearest the staff. These two crosses combined form what is known as the First Union Jack.

With the union of Ireland with Great Britain on January 1, 1801, came the final addition to our national flag. This was accomplished by blending with the former designs, the red diagonal cross upon a white ground, popularly known as the cross of St. Patrick, and thus forming the Meteor Flag of England. In its invincible red, white and blue, we learn how these sister nations are united by courage to build their realm on the sure foundation of purity and truth.

As Canadians, and "citizens of no mean country in the Greater Britain" we share in the glorious achievements of the Union Jack. "We come of a race that never counted the number of its friends nor the number of its foes when freedom, loyalty, or God was concerned. This is our flag, symbolizing the highest thoughts that have descended from heaven to earth. Ours too, is the Queen whose virtues transmute the sacred principles of loyalty into a personal affection." Ours too, be the daily prayer, God bless our Church, our Queen and Empire, and keep us loyal."

[NOTE.—Extra copies of this month's illustration can be obtained from the Editor at the rate of 20 copies for 25cts., *post free.*]

### THE COLOURS OF THE FLAG.

What is the blue on our flag, boys?  
The waves of the boundless sea,  
Where our vessels ride in their tameless pride  
And the feet of the winds are free:  
From the sun and smiles of the coral isles  
To the ice of the South and North,  
With dauntless tread through tempests dread  
The guardian ships go forth.

What is the white on our flag, boys?  
The honour of our land,  
Which burns in our sight like a beacon light  
And stands while the hills shall stand;  
Yea, dearer than fame is our land's great name,  
And we fight, wherever we be,  
For the mothers and wives that pray for the  
lives  
Of the brave hearts over the sea.

What is the red on our flag, boys?  
The blood of our heroes slain,  
On the burning sands in the wild waste lands  
And the froth of the purple main;  
And it cries to God from the crimsoned sod  
And the crest of the waves outrolled  
That he send us men to fight again  
As our fathers fought of old.

We'll stand by the dear old flag, boys,  
Whatever he said or done,  
Though the shots come fast, as we face the  
blast,  
And the foe be ten to one;—  
Though our only reward be the thrust of a  
sword  
And a bullet in heart or brain,  
What matters one gone, if the flag float on  
And Britain be Lord of the main.

F. G. SCOTT.

### The Bishop's Engagements for January.

Sunday, January 1st—Celebrate the Holy Communion and Preach at S. Paul's, Quebec.

Friday, January 6th (The Epiphany)  
Celebrate the Holy Communion at All Saints' Chapel, 8 a.m. Preside at Meeting of Church Reading Society, Bishopsthorpe, 11 a.m.

Sunday, January 8th—Celebrate the Holy Communion at Cathedral, 8 a.m., and Preach, 11 a.m.

Friday, January 13th—Preside at Meeting of Church Reading Society, Bishopsthorpe, 11 a.m.

Sunday, January 15th—Celebrate the Holy Communion and Preach at S. Matthew's, Quebec, 10.30 a.m.