

ANOTHER S. The British Ensign.

ANOTHER S. The Union Jack.

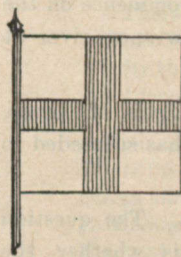
ANOTHER S. The Meteor flag of England.

JACK. The flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze.

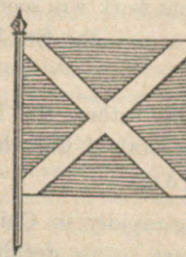
T. Well, you are right and wrong. We shall see how. While England's flag has braved the battle and the breeze for a thousand years, the *Union Jack* figured above has been in existence only eighty-nine years to date.

S. How is that?

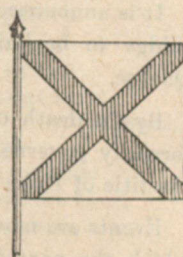
T. The Union Jack is not England's flag any more than it is that of Scotland or Ireland. The English patron saint was St. George; and St. George's cross was a red vertical and horizontally armed cross on a white banner. St. Andrew's cross was a white diagonally armed cross on a blue banner; St. Andrew was the patron saint of Scotland. The patron saint of Ireland was St. Patrick, whose cross is a diagonally armed red one on a white banner. And the English, Scotch and Irish, were once separate kingdoms, with their own banners. Here they are.



ENGLISH.



SCOTTISH.



IRISH.

In heraldry, vertical shading lines represent red, horizontal shading lines blue, and the absence of any marking white.

T. When were England and Scotland united?

S. In 1603.

T. Well, it is then the first Union Jack came into existence. It was a union of the banners of St. George and St. Andrew.

S. What was it like?

T. A blue banner with the St. Andrew's cross covered with the red cross of St. George. When was Ireland united to England and Scotland.

S. In 1801.

T. Well, on that occasion the red cross of St. Patrick was added to the Union Jack; and so that it would not cover out of sight the white cross of Scotland, the Scottish and Irish arms of the cross are matched alternately against each other.

S. Then the Union Jack is called the *Union* because it is a union of the English, Scottish and Irish crosses, and this represents the united three kingdoms.

JACK. And the *Jack* because it was the English Jack, the sailor, who won for it the most glory at first.

T. Very good.

S. It is not the English flag then?

T. No more than it is Scottish or Irish flag. The English cross is in front; but the whole blue field as well as the white cross is Scottish. It is the Scottish banner plus the cross of St. George and St. Patrick. It is now the British flag—the flag of the world-wide Empire.

S. What is the British Ensign?

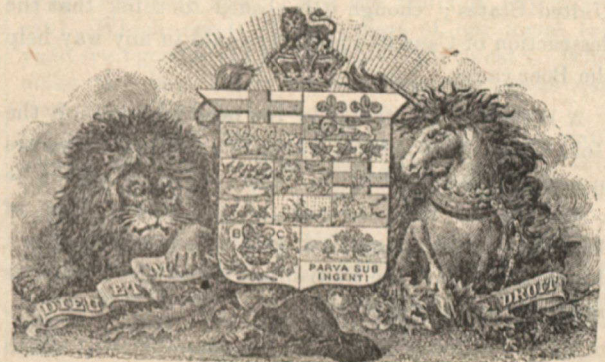
T. It is a red flag with the *Union* in the upper corner next the flag staff. The part most distant from the staff is called the fly. This flag is also known as the British Merchant flag. The Naval Reserve Flag has a blue fly. The man-of-war flag has a white fly divided by a St. George's cross, the upper inner angle of which is filled with the Union. The flag of the Admiral of the Fleet is simply the Union; of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a union with a harp in the centre. There are many modifications of the flags to indicate particular kinds of service; but we are concerned only with the Union Jack and the Ensign.

S. Isn't there a modification of the Ensign which indicates the Dominion of Canada?

T. So there is. The Dominion Flag is simply the British Ensign with the Canadian Coat of Arms on the fly.

S. And what is the Canadian Coat of Arms?

Here it is, on the shield between the supporters the Lion and the Unicorn.



Canada is made up of its provinces; and its Coat of Arms consists of those provinces "quartered," as the heraldic term is, on the one shield.

S. The Canadian Flag, then, represents the Empire generally and each province in particular. Which of them are the Arms of Nova Scotia?

T. The fish with two thistles above and one below in the centre of the shield.

New Brunswick's on the left. What is it?

S. A ship with a lion above it.

T. Prince Edward Island's at the bottom on the right?

S. The little tree under the great one.

T. British Columbia's to the left —?

S. The wreath and crown.

T. Manitoba's to the right of Nova Scotia's —?

S. The buffalo and red cross.

T. Quebec's, the upper right corner —?

S. The three maple leaves, lion and two fleur-de-lis.

T. Ontario's on the left side —?

S. The three maple leaves and red cross.