

HISTORY OF THE UNION JACK

BY "REX HOWARD,"

FOR THE BOYS' LODGE.

PART I.

Probably there is not one here before me to-night but who may think that the flag which we all call the "Union Jack" is one that we can use indiscriminately, but this is not so.

Its use is only allowed as follows:—The Orders in Council, 1864, limited the use of the Union Jack by itself to the bowsprit staff of a man-of-war, and to the flag-ship of an admiral of the fleet, flown at the main top-gallant mast-head. It is also flown at the mizzen top-gallant mast-head, when the Sovereign is on board. The military service, however, has the use of it on numerous occasions, the chief exceptions being when that service is at sea or acting in boats.

The Union Jack, with a white border one-fifth the depth of the Jack, is permitted to the mercantile marine as a pilot flag, but beyond this, and for all ordinary purposes, the red ensign is the flag for all British ships and subjects, not in the service of the Crown. The first mention that was ever made of the "Union Jack," that is, I mean the words or expression Union Jack, was in a proclamation issued in 1707 by Queen Anne, when it was expressly commanded in the Royal decrees that all ships not belonging to the Royal Navy were to fly "a Red Jack" with the Union Jack which is next the staff. To describe how and why this was brought about would take more time and space than I have at my disposal. Charles I., as no doubt a great many of you know, was one of our Kings who busied himself with the shipping of his time, so much so, that it was the indirect cause of his execution in 1649. Well, Charles I. issued an order in 1634 prohibiting all ships, save those of the King, in other words "the navy," from using the Union Jack. The first flag, which then consisted of the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew, became one as a flag on the consummation of the union of the two countries, (England, represented by St. George's Cross, and Scotland by St. Andrew's.) This use (interrupted only during the period of the Commonwealth and Cromwell) was continued during the reigns of Charles II. and James II. When King William III. came to England he used the red ensign with the Jack in the upper corner nearest to the staff, but it was not until the above proclamation of the next one of England's monarchs, Queen Anne that the use of the Union Jack was designated by a Royal Proclamation.

The coming of King William to England gave us, as simple citizens of this new Great Empire, the flag which we have a right to use. It was also the first appearance in history of that flag, "the Red Ensign."

I will now try to explain briefly what is meant, first, by the word "Union," and second by the word "Jack." By the first is meant the political union of England, Scotland and Ireland, the two former, in the first place, in 1066, when James VI. of Scotland became James I. of England, and the crosses of St. Andrew and St. George were incorporated into one, and made as one, and formed the flag used from that date to 1801, when Ireland and Great Britain were united as one, and St. Patrick's cross was made part of the above flag.

It will not be so easy to explain how the "Jack" came to be used. The first mention that is made about the word "Jack" in this sense is in the time of Edward III., when the King, among other things, ordered for use on board ship 26 "Jacks," and remember these were not flags, but, stout leather tunics wadded, and usually strengthened by small pieces of plate armour. On these the red cross of St. George was put, a custom ordained to distinguish friends from foes. There is still in existence a very curious law, dating back to Richard III.'s reign, and ordains that, "Every man of what estate, condition, or nation that be of, so that he be one of our parties; here a signe of the armes of Saint George, large, both before and behynde."

The tunics were a cheap kind of armour, and no doubt called "Jacks" from the short jackets which were introduced about that period called "Court Jacques." These were sent on board the ships for to use in their defence. They were placed in close rows along the bulwarks of the ship, which were usually very low at that period of our country's history, just as the Romans and many other nations or races have placed or used their shields.

There is no record of the actual way in which the word, meaning "an emblazoned coat," came to mean an emblazoned flag. The step is not a difficult one now to trace, now that we understand how that the jacks were used to protect our country and armies, as well as to distinguish "ours" among the many that traverse the seas of today. Of old the jacks were used to protect the soldiers in the navy, by arranging them in long rows and close together, along the low bulwarks of our ships of that period; to-day they are hoisted to the bowsprit staff of our ships of war, and the mizzen-top-gallant mast-head of our other ships, heretofore described, to show our friends and our foes that—

There is no name in all the spheres
So dear to English hearts;
No name makes music in our ears
Like that which it imports.
We'll never waver, nor fall back
From foreign armies, which attack,
While over us floats the Union Jack!

God bless each son of fair England,
In all her wide domains;
May he be true to his native land,
And faithful to his Queen.
A prayer goes out from white and black;
The Zephyrs waft the echoes back:
"God bless our glorious Union Jack!"

The two verses are from a poem written by Jessie Gates. You will find the whole poem in the ANGLO-SAXON of March 1, 1894.

A GIRL'S NARROW ESCAPE.

HER FRIENDS DID NOT THINK SHE COULD RECOVER.

A Case Where the Expression "Snatched From the Grave" May be Most Appropriately Used—A Story Worthy of a Careful Perusal by Parents.

From the Penetanguishene Herald.

A few evenings ago a representative of the Herald, while in conversation with Mr. James McLean, fireman on the steamer Manitou, which plies between here, Midland and Parry Sound, learned the particulars of a case which adds another to the long list of triumphs of a well-known Canadian remedy, and it is of sufficient importance to deserve wide-spread publication for the benefit it may prove to others. The case referred to is the remarkable restoration to health of Mr. McLean's daughter Agnes, 13 years of age, who had been so low that her recovery was deemed almost impossible. Miss McLean's condition was that of very many other girls throughout the land. Her blood had become impoverished, giving rise to palpitation of the heart, dizziness, severe headache, extremely pale complexion and general debility. At this period Miss McLean was residing in Midland, and her condition became so bad that she was finally compelled to take to her bed. A doctor was called in, but she did not improve under his treatment and another was then consulted, but without any better results. She had become so weak that her father had no hopes of her recovery and did not think she would live three months. The lady with whom Miss McLean was residing urged the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and finally a supply was secured. Before the first box was all gone an improvement could be noticed in the girl's condition, and by the time another box had been used the color was beginning to come back to her cheeks, and her appetite was returning. The use of Pink Pills was still continued, each day, now adding to her health and strength, until finally she was restored to perfect health, and has gained in weight until she now weighs 140 pounds. Mr. McLean says he is convinced that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved his daughter's life, and he believes them to be the best remedy in the world, and does not hesitate to advise their use in all similar cases.

The facts above related are important to parents, as there are many young girls just budding into womanhood whose condition is, to say the least, more critical than their parents imagine. Their complexion is pale and waxy in appearance, troubled with heart palpitation, headaches, shortness of breath on the slightest exercise, faintness and other distressing symptoms which invariably lead to a premature grave unless prompt steps are taken to bring about a natural condition of health. In this emergency no remedy yet discovered can supply the place of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, which build anew the blood, strengthen the nerves and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. They are a certain cure for all troubles peculiar to the female system, young or old. Pink Pills also cure such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration, the after effects of la grippe, influenza and severe colds, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. In the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, over-work, or excesses of any nature.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark. They are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud and should be avoided. The public are also cautioned against all other so-called blood builders and nerve tonics, put up in similar form intended to deceive. Ask your dealer for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and refuse all imitations and substitutes.

These pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ontario, and Schenectady, N. Y., and may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. from either address, at 50 cents a box, or six for \$2.50. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

FROM NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE LATE BRO. GEO. PARKER'S FUNERAL.

THE FIRST D. D. OF SONS OF ENGLAND IN NEW BRUNSWICK PASSESS OVER TO THE SILENT MAJORITY.

Fredericton, N.B., April 4th.—Since last writing to the ANGLO-SAXON, Islington Lodge has lost by death one of its charter members, Bro. George H. Parker, P.D.D. He was elected past-president at the time that Islington Lodge was instituted, and was a member in good standing at the time of his death. The deceased brother was universally respected as an upright, honest, loyal citizen. He represented Wellington ward as alderman for several years at the Council Board, and was also a leading member of the Loyal Orange Association, with which he had been actively connected for a period of over 30 years. He also took a deep interest in military matters, from the time that the volunteer movement was first started down to the time of his death, being always present at their regular camps.

Walker Lodge, No. 35, L.O.A., in consideration of his long connection with the Order, took precedence at the funeral, but recognizing his standing in the S. O. E. Society, appointed a committee to confer with a committee from Islington, and by mutual agreement, the members of the L.O.A., headed by the 71st Battalion band, in regulation dress, and wearing the respective regalia and badges of their Orders, preceded the hearse, while the members of Islington, with the regalia of the Order, followed the hearse in rear of the immediate relatives of deceased, as mourners.

Three past County Masters of the L. O. A. and three Past-presidents of the S. O. E. acted as pall-bearers. About 100 members of the two Orders marched in the procession, while a large concourse of Fredericton's respected citizens followed in rear of Islington. Following the burial service of the Baptist Church, of which the deceased brother was a member, came the burial service of the S. O. E., and the L. O. A. respectively. The floral tributes were numerous and very fine.

A. D. THOMAS, D.D.

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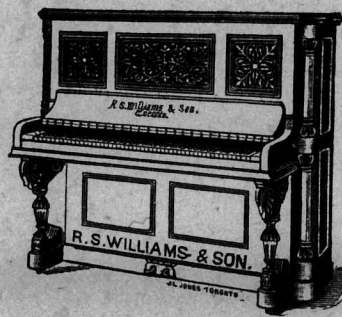
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