

The continued use of this cross, and reason for wearing it is well shown from the ordinances issued to the army, with which Richard II. of England invaded Scotland in 1386, of which the following is an extract: "Also that every man of what estate, condition or nation they be of, so that he be of our party, bear a sign of the arms of Saint George, large, both before and behind upon peril, that if he be slain or wounded to death, he that hath so done to him shall not be put to death for default of the cross that he lacketh, and that none enemy do bear the same token or cross of Saint George, notwithstanding if he be prisoner upon the pain of death."

The sailors of the Cinque Ports on the south-eastern coast of England, by whom the royal navies were in early days principally manned, wore as their uniform in 1315 "a coat of white cotton with a red cross and the arms of the ports underneath."

*Jacks*.—These surcoats or "Jacques" came in time to be known as the "Jacks" of the various nationalities they represented, and it was from the raising of one of them upon a staff or lance in order to show the nationality of those on board, when troops were being conveyed by water, that the single flag bearing on it only the cross of St. George, or the cross of St. Andrew, came to be known as a "Jack."

*Jack Staff*.—From this origin, too, the small flagpole at the bow of a ship is still called the "Jack Staff."

It is also believed that the term "Jack" is derived from the abbreviated name of James I., under whose direction the first union flag was constructed, and who signed his name "Jacques."

*St. George's Day*.—April 23rd was inaugurated in 1222 as the national festival by the Council of Oxford.

*Knighthood*.—"The Most Noble Order of the Garter" (K. G.) was instituted by Edward III. in 1349, who made St. George the patron of it. The ribband is a blue garter, and the motto is *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (Evil to him who evil thinks).