



MEDALS AWARDED TO CANADIAN INDIANS



WHILE it may be impossible now to give the original motives or circumstances which led to the adoption of medals as a valuable accessory to intercourse with the North American Indians, it may be inferred that they grew out of similar uses among the peoples of older lands. As the gift of medals came to be more and more appreciated by the Indians, their value, as a form of reward or as a means of conciliation, was recognized by governments, and that too for several distinct purposes.

1st. As a badge by which friendly Indians could be recognized. In some instances, no Indians were allowed within the settlements unless they wore their medals.

