

EMPIRE DAY IN FLATRALIA



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The Author would greatly appreciate any suggestions from patriotic or scholastic readers for further editions.



INTRODUCTION.

The objects of this little book which is a mere compilation of facts are, firstly, to encourage the spirit of patriotism, secondly, to try to efface some erroneous ideas as regards our flags, and thirdly, to combine all that is thought to be appropriate in song and flag for the adequate celebration of Empire Day in Australia.

Concerning its first object, it is generally agreedthat there can be no nobler and purer spirit encouraged in the young than an ardent love for the land which gave them life, and a patriotic pride for the flag which flies o'er them. In the United States of America, a custom has been in vogue for many years in most of their State Schools, and now in Canada, which might well be followed by all nations, more especially by the infant nations of the world. When the school assembles in the morning, to the roll of the kettledrum, all the children salute their national flag, with the exclamation, "One nation, one language, one flag." This simple act, by its regularity so impresses itself upon the youthful minds of these confreres of cours, the Americans, that whatever part of the globe they live in, or whatever age they may be, the lesson is never forgotten.

As to its second object, the writer draws the reader's attention to the correct derivation and use of the word "Jack," as well as the meaning of the stars in our Australian Ensign. And if, in its last object, the combination of the general songs for Empire Day (arranged in three part harmony and both notations) lessens the labours of the teachers and scholars of the Public Schools, it will have fulfilled the desire of an

Old Public School Boy.



The Objects of Empire Day.



In explanation of this extremely pretty, appropriate, and national conception, no better words could be chosen than some quotations from one of the originators of this grand idea—the Earl of Meath.

Empire Day! What are the objects we have in view, and what are the ideas embodied in these two simple words? In the first place, we may say at once that the ideas of the promoter of Empire Day have absolutely nothing in common with the condition of mind popularly known as "Jingoism." We desire no aggrandisement of the British Empire for aggrandisement sake.

We do not believe that the honour of the nation or the respect due to the flag, can be in any way augmented by wars carried on for mere military glory. Nor do we desire to flaunt the glorious standard, which has "braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze," defiantly in the face of any potentate or people.

We wish to live in peace and amity with the whole world. We desire that the 400 million people who owe allegiance to our beloved Sovereign, King Edward VII., shall set the world an example of how righteousness exalteth a nation; but to enable us to do this, we believe that these 400 million should be united not only in name but in very deed and truth, by all the bonds which can truly unite a free, enlightened, and loyal people.

There is no occasion for boasting. It is only the weak who need to boast.

We are conscious of the magnificence and power of our Empire, of its absolutely unique character, of its extent and almost boundless resources, of the loyality of its populations, of the unrivalled freedom and liberty of person enjoyed by them. All these things we know. There is no occasion to recapitulate them constantly, but it is well occasionally to remember that the blessings which an all-wise and all-knowing Providence has thought fit to bestow upon us may take unto themselves wings and fly to other nations should we prove unworthy of the trust reposed in us.

Empires have risen and Empires have disappeared from the face of the earth, but if we examine the cause of their disruption, we shall find, almost invariably, that is has been owing to internal decay rather than to outward shock. Let us, therefore, take warning and see that this glorious Empire of ours which

Occupies 11 million square miles,-which

Is to be found in all the five continents of the earth,—which

Is peopled by 400 million souls, and

Covers more than one-fifth of the habitable globe, and which claims about one-fourth of the entire population of the world, shall not suffer hurt by internal disruption or decay.

What are the principal causes of internal decay and disruption as exemplified by the fates of other Empires?

- (1) Spiritual and moral atrophy in the body politic leading to public and private corruption, to immorality, and to the lack of public spirit.
- (2) The growth of enervating luxury and of the spirit of selfishness making men and women soft, weakening their minds and bodies, making them careless of the rights and wants of others, and inclined to subordinate the public to selfish or class interests.
- (3) Want of interest in, and adequate knowledge of, the affairs of the Commonwealth, thus placing the masses at the mercy of clever and unscrupulous men, seeking their own private interest to the detriment of the general welfare.

These are a few of the causes of decay and fall of nations.

Are we quite sure that already there are not signs that some of the seeds of the above causes of decay have been sown in our midst? If not let us endeavour to eradicate them in time. In youth the mind is more especially malleable and open to receive the impression either of noble and elevating ideas and sentiments, or of the reverse. Therefore, by fixing on one day of the year in which the attention of all men, women, and children shall be called to the consideration of matters common to all subjects of King Edward VII., and when throughout all the Colleges and schools of the Empire, stress shall be laid, by lecturers and teachers, on the duties and responsibilities attaching to the noble privilege of British citizenship, and no pains be spared to inculcate in the minds of all, but especially of the young, the importance of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the history, extent, power, and resources of the Great Empire to which they belong; of the conditions, moral and physical, which rule in the different portions of that Empire; of the nature of the climates, of productions, commerce, trade and manufactures; and of the characteristics, religions, customs and habits of thought of the various races, peoples, creeds, and classes, which owe a common allegiance to King Edward VII., the hope of the promoters of Empire Day may be realised.

If in youth knowledge be obtained and interest be aroused in regard to the Empire, there is little fear that prejudice or that the wiles of ill-disposed men shall be able to prevent the growth of that friendly and even affectionate feeling between all sections of the British Empire, which must be the ardent desire of all true patriots, and of those animated by the Christian spirit of peace and goodwill towards men. That the minds of the youth of the nation may be inculcated with such noble and inspiring sentiments, as those of loyalty to a common sovereign, of patriotism towards a common Empire, of self-sacrificing devotion towards fellow citizens of a State, the rights of freedom and of the personal enjoyment of liberty in a greater degree than by the inhabitants of even the most advanced Republic, cannot fail to have in a few years, as these youths and maidens grow to manhood and womanhood, an almost incalculable effect on the direction of public and private affairs, and must inevitably tend towards the universal reign of righteous dealing between man and man, between nation and nation, and the advent of the time when peace and goodwill shall exist between all men upon earth.

May the 24th is the anniversary of the birthday of our late revered and lamented Sovereign, Queen Victoria.

It was during her beneficent reign that the British Empire attained in great measure to its present vast extent. It was during the period of her glorious rule that liberty and freedom, prosperity and wealth, that righteous and equitable government, grew and grew with the confines of her dominions, until the British Empire won the universal admiration of its friends, became the terror of its enemies, and the envy of the world. It was thought, and I think most will agree with the opinion, that a more suitable day could not well have been found.

It has won the approval of and has been adopted as "Empire Day" by all the separate Governments of Canada, by 22 other Colonies and Dependencies, and has been generally accepted in Great Britain. Thousands of schools, besides large numbers of official bodies, will celebrate the occasion simultaneously throughout the Dominions of the King.

As one of the objects of the promoters of Empire Day is to promote the Christian sentiment of peace and goodwill towards men, it is hardly necessary to express the most earnest hope that the greatest care will be taken to introduce nothing in the proceedings which could in the least be interpreted as hurtful to the feelings of any man or nation.

Finally, I shall express the hope that all who read my words will use their best endeavours to promote the inner spirit of the movement amongst their neighbours and fellow-subjects and thus advance, not only the interests of the British Empire, but the cause of righteousness and the general happiness of the human race, for we firmly believe that the influence of so vast an Empire as that of Britain cannot fail to have an immense effect either for good or evil upon the entire inhabitated world.

"Unite the Empire—make it stand compact,
Shoulder to shoulder, let its members feel
The touch of British brotherhood. and act
As one great nation—strong and true as steel."
—MEATH.

One flag, one fleet,
Sharers of our glorious past,
Brothers, must we part at last?
Shall we not thro' good or ill
Cleave to one another still?
Britain's myriad voices call,
"Sons, be wedded each and all,
Into one imperial whole,
One with Britain, heart and soul!
One life, one flag, one fleet, one throne!
Britons, hold your own!"

-ALFRED TENNYSON.

Now that the reader has had the objects of Empire Day set clearly before him, the Author wishes to express his extreme admiration for a body of citizens who have done much for the furtherance of this patriotic spirit.

We have in Australia the British Empire League which is affiliated with that body in Great Britain, of which the King is the Patron and the Duke of Devonshire the President. One of its objects is: "To encourage the growth of the Empire spirit in Australia, and to spread throughout the Commonwealth a knowledge of the advantages and responsibility of co-operation in the interests of the British Race." The League has been largely instrumental in securing the widespread celebration of Empire Day throughout the Commonwealth, and has established a system of exchange of Empire Flags (with correspondence) between the Public Schools throughout the King's Dominions, so engendering the feeling of kinship. In this way about 100 Union Jacks have been exchanged by schools in England, Scotland, Wales, India, Canada, Nova Scotia, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, West Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia, and Cape Colony. To the Women's Branch of the British Empire League all honour is due for the presentation of Union Jacks to various schools throughout New South Wales, and whilst such patriotism exists in the hearts of those who rock the cradle of the nation, without doubt it must be transmitted through their offspring.

Thus upon Empire Day of 1909, upwards of 200 schools in various parts of the Empire will have the emblems of our unity as a race before them.

HOW TO MAKE A FLAG.

A FLAG is not an indiscriminate piece of bunting, as some people imagine, but every colour, star, cross, etc. displayed, conveys a meaning, and in some cases the flag shows the actual history of the nation, as seen in the Union Jack of Great Britain and Ireland.

A FLAG must be twice as long as it is broad. If it is seven feet in length it

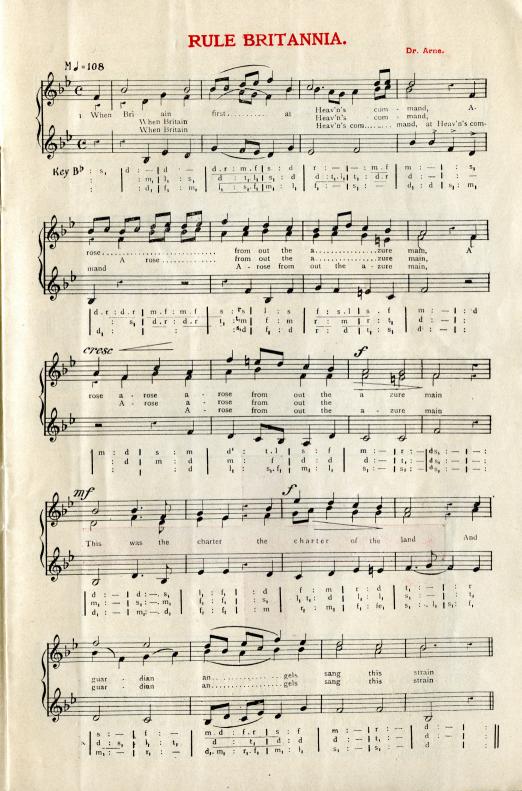
must be three and a half feet in breadth.

All colourings, except yellow and white, are called colours or tinctures, and yellow and white are called metals, representing gold and silver. You cannot put a colour upon or next to a colour, or a metal to a metal. So that all the colours must be next to yellow or white, or in other words one colour must be separated from another colour by one of the metals, yellow or white.

The top point nearest the staff or flagpole is called the hoist, and the part

furthest away from the pole is called the fly.

The three principal crosses used in flags are the Roman Cross, +, Grecian Cross, +, and the Celtic Cross or Saltire, \times (diagonal cross). A star consists of six or more points. A five pointed star is called a mullet.



RULE BRITANNIA (contd.)



- 2. The nations not so blest as thee, Must in their turns, must in their turns, to tyrants fall, Must in their turns to tyrants fall.
 - While thou shalt flourish, shalt flourish great and free, The dread and envy of them all.
 - Rule, Britannia, Britannia rule the waves, Britons never, never, never shall be slaves
- 3. The muses still with freedom found
- Shall to thy coast, shall to thy happy coast repair,
 Shall to thy coast, shall to thy happy coast repair,
 Shall to thy coast, shall to thy happy coast repair.
 Blest isle! with beauty, with matchless beauty crown'd
 And manly hearts to guard the fair.
 Rule, Britannia, Britannia rule the waves.
 - Britons never, never, never shall be slaves.



ST. GEORGE'S CROSS.—A true red cross upon a white ground, used as the flag or Jack of England from about 1194 A.D. to 1606 A.D. St. George was venerated in both Eastern and Western churches, especially as the patron of Chivalry. His origin is extremely obscure and all accounts of him contain a strange admixture of history and legend. One authority tells us, St. George became England's patron Saint as follows: - In 1190, Richard, Coeur de Lion, of England, built and engaged a fleet for the 3rd great crusade, while the Germans, French, and Franks proceeded overland. Arriving off the coast of Palestine, Richard won a gallant sea-fight over the Saracens near Beyrout and at the same time intercepted the reinforcements for Acre, a town which was being beseiged by the combined forces of the Crusaders. A few miles from Beyrout, on the coast, stands an ancient grotto cut into the rock, famous for being the traditional spot where the gallant knight St. George slew the monstrous dragon which was about to devour the daughter of the King of the city. Some say that this knight was no other than the St. George of Cappadocia. St. George is stated to have suffered martyrdom by being beheaded by the Roman Emperor Julian, on 23rd of April, A.D. 361, the Anniversary of which has since been celebrated as "St. George's Day." The form of his cross is that known as the Grecian Cross and is used by six other European countries. St. George was not a hero of the sea, but as this naval victory took place in the vicinity of his great exploits, that seafaring nation, the English, adopted him as their patron saint.

THE BLUE BELLS OF SCOTLAND.



THE BLUE BELLS OF SCOTLAND (contd.)



- a. Oh! where, tell me where, did your Highland laddie dwell?
 Oh! where, tell me where, did your Highland laddie dwell?
 He dwelt in Bonnie Scotland, where blooms the sweet Blue Bell,
 And it's Oh! in my heart, I love my laddie well.
- Oh! how, tell me how, was your Highland laddie clad?
 Oh! how, tell me how, was your Highland laddie clad?
 A bonnet with a lofty plume, and on his breast a plaid.
 And it's Oh! in my heart, I love my Highland lad.
- 4. Oh! what, tell me what, if your Highland lad be slain? Oh! what, tell me what, if your Highland lad be slain? Oh, no, true love will be his guard, and bring him safe again, For it's Oh! my heart would break if my Highland lad were slain.



St. Andrew's CROSS is a white saltire or diagonal cross on a blue ground. It is said that St. Andrew was adopted by Scotland, as their patron Saint, because some relics of this Apostle were brought to the port of that name (St Andrews) in the county of Fife in Scotland. The origin of this diagonal cross is attributed to the fact that St. Andrew, considering himself unworthy to be crucified on a cross of the same shape as his Saviour, selected this X shape. This is accepted as the emblem of his martyrdom. The most favoured tradition of its adoption dates A.D. 987. The story goes that Athelstane, King of the West Saxons, was invading the Northern Territories, when Hungus, King of the Picts, was supported by Achaius, King of the Scots, with 10,000 of his Scottish subjects, to oppose the invasion. The night before the battle was spent by the timid followers of Hungus and Achaius in prayer to God and St. Andrew, when suddenly upon the blue background of the sky appeared in clouds the white saltire of the martyr saint. Reanimated by this answering sign the Scottish soldiers entered the battlefield with such inspired vigour as to utterly rout the invaders, leaving Athelstane among the dead upon the field. St. Andrew's Day is November 30th.

THE DEAR LITTLE SHAMROCK.



THE DEAR LITTLE SHAMROCK (contd.)





THE ST. PATRICK'S CROSS is a red saltire upon a white ground. This was originally part of the coat of arms of the house of Fitzgerald, an ancient noble family of Ireland. Athough there are some false reports of its emblematic origin being the same as in the case of the martyrdom of St. Andrew, it was not till the end of the 17th century that it was generally acknowledged as the cross of St. Patrick and the red saltire of Ireland. St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.



THE UNION JACK OF 1606.—This is the combination or union of the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew, which took place three years after the commencement of the reign of James 1st of England, formerly James 6th of Scotland. This flag was used as the Union Jack till 1801.



HOW TO MAKE THE UNION JACK OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

This flag, which dates from 1801, shows the combination of the crosses of the three patron saints, St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick, as well as the history of the Unions between the three countries, England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The cross of St. George is one-fifth the breadth of the flag.

The crosses of St. Andrew and St. Patrick are in the following proportions:—Divide the St. Andrew cross into halves and take two-thirds of one of the halves for the St. Patrick cross. Next the staff, the upper half is St. Andrews and the lower half has the upper two-thirds, St. Patrick. In the fly of the flag, St. Andrew is represented by the lower half and St. Patrick by the lower two-thirds of the upper half, as is seen in the above diagram.

The point shewn here is, that any thing displayed nearer the staff or pole is of more importance than that at the fly; and as Scotland was united with England at an earlier date than Ireland, she takes precedence by the upper half of the

diagonal cross near the staff.

The measurements may also be explained thus:
Red cross of St. George ... one-fifth
White border of St. George ... one-third
Broad white of St. Andrew ... one-half
Red cross of St. Patrick ... one-third
White border of St. Patrick ... one-sixth ... y, y, y, y,

ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE TERM "JACK."

The word Jack is derived from "Jacque," or Surcoat, charged with a red cross, anciently worn by English soldiers, and not, as is popularly imagined from the proclamation which authorised a flag, in which the two crosses were for the first time combined, it being explained that King James often signed his name in French as "Jacques," which was abbreviated into "Jac," and thus the new flag was called a "Jack." Jacks were known long before the time of James I. of England.

to The Jewish Jacobus was corrupted through Jacquemes to Jaques in France, and James in English, and Jaques being the commonest Christian name in the former country was used as a contemptuous expression for a common man. The introduction of the word, in the same sense, into England, seems to have led to the use of Jack as the familiar synonym of John, which happened to be here the commonest name, as Jaques in France. The term was then applied to any mechanical contrivance for replacing the personal services of an attendant, or to an implement subjected to rough and familiar usage (vide Wedgewood's Dictionary of English Etymology). Hence boot jack. Jacket (diminutive of Jack), is a short coat for homely use."





MEN OF HARLECH (contd.)



This is the patriotic song of Wales, of which St. David is the Patron Saint. St. David's Day is March 1st.

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR.



ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR (contd.)



While other nations of the globe
Behold us from afar,
We'll raise to high renown and shine
Like our glorious southern star.
From England, Scotia, Erin's isle
Who come our lot to share,
Let all combine with heart and hand
To advance Australia fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia fair.

4. Should foreign foe e'er sight our coast,
Or dare a foot to land,
We'll rouse to arms like sires of yore,
To guard our native strand.
Britannia then shall surely know
Beyond wide ocean's roll,
Her sons in fair Australia's land
Still keep a British soul.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia fair.



HOW TO MAKE THE COMMONWEALTH ENSIGN.

DIVIDE the flag into quarters numberings them a follows:—Upper quarter next staff is first quarter, second quarter is upper quarter of fly, third, lower quarter next staff, fourth quarter, lower quarter in fly.

The first quarter consists of the British Union Jack.

In the second and fourth quarters is the southern cross represented by five stars of different magnitude and number of points. The stars are called Alpha Crucis (A of the cross), Beta Crucis, Gamma Crucis, Delta Crucis and Epsilon Crucis. Starting from the lowermost star in the fourth quarter, then taking the star nearest the Union Jack on the first quarter, then the top star and following the others in same direction. The Alpha Crucis consists of nine points, Beta eight, Gamma seven, Delta six and Epsilon (which is more properly called a mullet and not a star) five points. The stars are white on a blue ground. The second quarter has a large white star on a blue ground. The star is six-pointed to represent the six states of the Commonwealth.

The merchant flag is made by substituting red for blue in the second, third, and fourth quarters.

HOW TO MAKE A SCHOOL BADGE.

In this, the rules of heraldy are the same as in the flags, namely. colour upon metal, and metal upon colour.

A bend or bar (dexter) runs diagonally from upper right of shield to lower left, remembering always that a shield is described as being worn in front of the body. This is known in heraldy as token of honour. (See diagram). Under no condition is it allowable for the bend or bar (sinister) to run from upper left to lower right. This is acknowledged as a token of dishonour.

A bar is very narrow, whereas a bend may occupy one-fifth to one-third of he whole shield.



GOD SAVE THE KING.

Henry Carey.



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