

FLAG OF KING CARLOS I OF SPAIN
EMPEROR CARLOS V... HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE
THE BURGUNDIAN CROSS - RAGULED SALTIRE

Queen Isabella died 1504, and King Ferdinand in 1516.

Carlos (Charles) of Austria, heir to the throne through the marriage of Isabella's daughter, became King Carlos I of Spain, but known in history as Carlos V, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and lord over many principalities. This began the Hapsburg Dynasty on the throne of Spain, to last until 1700 when a French prince was to inaugurate the Spanish Bourbon Dynasty. Carlos V reigned, 1516-1556.

Apparently (but I am not yet satisfied with the evidence) the Castilian flag passed with the death of Ferdinand and Isabella-- their deaths ended the purely Spanish Dynasty, and inaugurated, as stated, the Hapsburg Dynasty. A quotation from Preble's History of the Flags of the United States of America, section headed "The Symbols, Standards and Banners of Ancient and Modern Nations," reads:

"On the accession of Charles V to the Kingdom of Spain he introduced the Burgundian flag, the red raguled saltire on a white ground, which was to some extent used for 200 years. Ships of the (Spanish) Armada, in 1588, bore the Burgundian cross. In a series of maps of the actions, preserved in the British Museum, the Spanish fleet is distinctly marked by the red saltire as the English by the red cross."
See illustration 15.

This indicates that flags and their devices were still personal or dynastic; that standardized national flags had not yet become recognized. Carlos was distinctly favorable to and a favorite with the Burgundian territory, which was a part of his dominions. Ostend, a Spanish possession until 1604, carried

The red cross of England is the St. George's Cross.

