

The Rockwood Review.

was the Parliament which assembled at the call of Governor Simcoe, at Niagara, on the 17th of September, 1792. That was the day of economy and simplicity, and the wooden mace, painted red and gilt, was in keeping with that small assemblage of sturdy backwoodsmen clad in homespun grey, less in number than the smallest County Council of 1881, who met to enact laws providing for the few wants of a young people. It is probable that it graced the legislative hall at Niagara, although there is no positive evidence to that effect. It was certainly used after the removal of the Upper Canada Parliament to York, for, on the 27th April, 1813, when the United States forces attacked the seat of government and captured it, they destroyed the public buildings of the embryo city of Toronto, burnt the Parliament House, and carried of sundry trophies of their victory. Amongst these was the mace used in the Assembly. Commodore Chauncey, the commander of the successful expedition, forwarded it with other spoils of war to the Secretary of the United States Navy, and it is still to be seen, with a British Standard, captured at the same time, in the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, in an excellent state of preservation. The Hon. W. H. Hunt, Secretary of the Navy, at the request of the writer, recently directed Rear Admiral George P. Balch, Superintendent of the Academy, to prepare a full description of the trophy, and, as a result, photographs of it have been taken, and an elaborate account of it forwarded, which, as it is of historical value, is given at length. It is somewhat technical in character, but possesses sufficient interest for the general reader to warrant its reproduction in these pages without abridgment. One photograph gives a full view of the mace, and others of its crown or head, and of its base, and so convey an idea, not only of its appearance,

but of the care with which it has been preserved during its nearly seventy years' sojourn in the United States.

"The mace is of some soft wood, perhaps pine or fir, and consists of a staff, or mid part, surmounted by a crowned head, and ending below in a foot shod with an iron verrel. The length, from the mound on crown to the tip of the verrel, is 55½ inches; the staff is 34½ inches in length; the head, neck and crown together are 11½ inches long, and the length of the foot, including verrel, 9½ inches. The staff is taper from neck towards the foot; the neck between the staff and head, counting from the former, is moulded as follows:—A cavetto, a fillet, a torus, a Scotia fillet, torus, Scotia fillet; the head is circular, in horizontal section (the whole mace having been turned in a lathe), and is shaped somewhat like a rifle projectile inverted, the point of the projectile being supposed to be cut off. The crown is notably an imperfect crown, not being heightened by the customary four crossed PATTES with the four FLEUR-DE-LYS alternately interspersed; the mound, also, is without bands, and lacks the customary cross. The crown consists of a regal circlet, enriched on its lower and on its upper edge with an inverted borderline; and midway between the two border-lines are interspersed, in regular alternations, horizontally, eight lozenges, with eight pearls, the arrises of the lozenges being distinctly chamfered. The jewels are of wood, glued on—six of them only remain. The lozenges lie horizontally as to their long axis; the crown is duly bonneted and duly arched twice; the bonnet is of wood, rudely carved and painted red; the arches embracing it are of thin sheet-brass, or copper, fastened between the circlet and bonnet with small wedges of soft wood. The intersection of the arches is marked by a mound without bands, the cross being absent as before