

ART. IX.—*The Regalia of Appleby.* By W. HEWITSON,  
Town Clerk of Appleby.

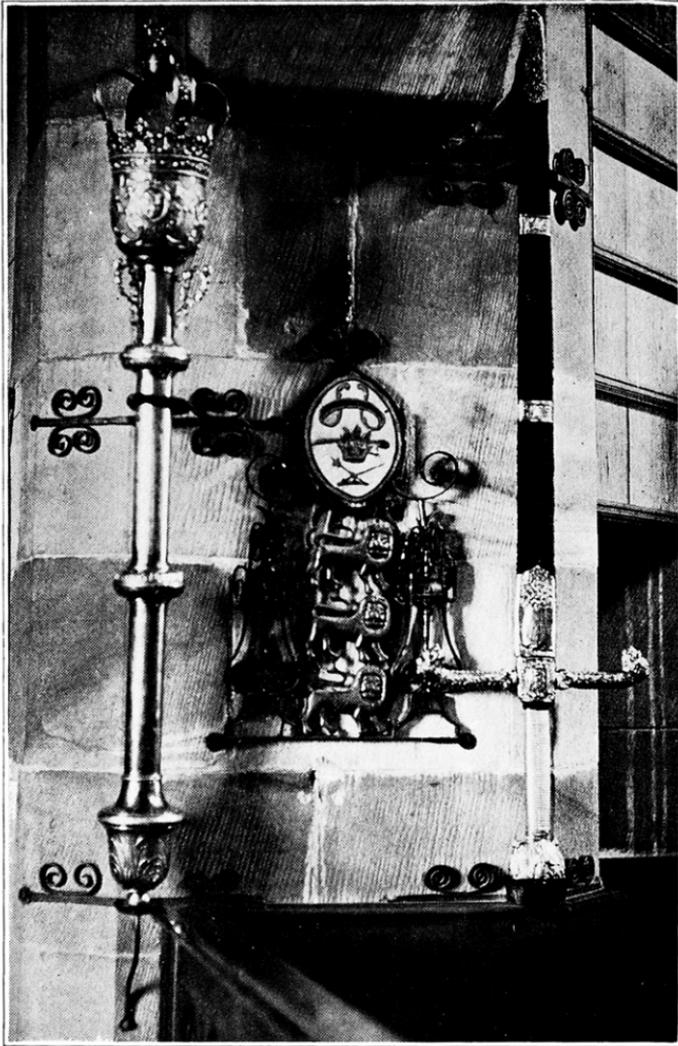
*Read at Appleby, September 10th, 1908.*

THE sword, which is double edged, is slightly over fifty inches in length from pommel to chape of scabbard. The pommel is of silver gilded, and bears on one side a representation of "Justice," and on the other of "Fame" holding a trumpet in each hand; and the hilt is wrapped with silver wire. In the centre of the richly ornamented guard are the arms of Appleby (three lions passant guardant) on one side, and the Royal arms on the other. The scabbard is of red velvet, and, including the chape, is bounded by four bands of brass, gilded and bearing heraldic and other devices. The following inscription appears on the uppermost of those bands—"Ex dono Joh<sup>s</sup> Dalston Ar. Unius burgen<sup>s</sup>: in Parlamento pro Burgo de Appleby." John Dalston, the donor, was first elected as one of the two Members of Parliament for Appleby in 1661, and he continued to sit for the borough until 1679. Presumably, therefore, the sword came into the possession of the Corporation sometime during that period. The first recorded appointment of a sword-bearer occurs in the year 1709, and thereafter an appointment to this office was made annually when the other officers of the Corporation were appointed.

The mace would appear to have been purchased by means of a fund raised by subscription, for I find in one of the record books this entry, dated October 24, 1722:—

Received then of Mr John Robinson by Order of the Court ye sum of Twenty-six pounds being moneys pd into Mr. Robinson's hands for ye use of ye towne for a mase. We say recd for the sd use by us. Willm Nevinson, Mayor.

This recd by us. Tho Knott. Thomas Harrison.



THE SWORD AND MACE OF APPLEBY,  
in the brackets adjoining the Mayor's seat  
in St. Laurence's Church.

*Photo. by Rev. R. Brewin.*

TO FACE P. 166.

The two latter signatories were the chamberlains. Again, under date April 16th, 1733, is the minute—"Ordered that all that are in arrears of their subscriptions to the mace pay them forthwith to the chamberlains." These are the only entries in the books with regard to the acquisition of the mace.

A sergeant at mace, or as the older entries describe the office "*Servient ad clavam*," was one of the officers from much earlier times appointed and sworn annually for the borough. From the nature of his oath, it would appear to have been his duty to execute the orders of the Court of Record held by the Mayor and Recorder. This Court continued its sittings down to the beginning of the nineteenth century, and apparently was not limited to matters arising within the borough nor as regards amount.

To return, however, to the mace. It is of silver gilt, and is forty-four inches in length. The shaft is divided into three lengths by ornamental bands, and the top is arched in form like an open crown, the arches being surmounted by an orb and cross, while on the flat plate underneath the arches are the Royal arms. Around the head from which the arches spring are the borough arms, ornamental scroll work, and the figures 1733, indicating, I assume, the year in which the mace was acquired.

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