

**THE GAVEL AND THE
MACE: OR,
PARLIAMENTARY LAW
IN EASY CHAPTERS**

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The Gavel and the Mace: Or, Parliamentary Law in Easy Chapters by Frank Warren Hackett

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FRANK WARREN HACKETT

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or

Parliamentary Law in Easy Chapters

By

FRANK WARREN HACKETT

Thus jangle they and demen and devise
—THE SQUIERE'S TALK

NEW YORK
McCLURE, PHILLIPS & CO.
M C M

In Memory of
Samuel Dana Horton

(HARVARD 1864)

*Leader in Europe and America of the Cause of the
International Parity of Gold and Silver*

These Pages

That took *Shape* under the *Smile*
Of His Approval

Are Affectionately Inscribed

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PREFACE

THE present is a period of public and private meetings. Not to speak of the many who are actually members of a legislative assembly, we observe that nearly every man we know—and for the matter of that, woman, also—belongs to a society, of some sort or description, that has its by-laws, rules of order, and debates. One ought to feel positively thankful at possessing even an inkling of the mode whereby the proceedings of a meeting are conducted after a parliamentary fashion.

If, for the purpose of increasing a moderate stock of knowledge upon the subject, one resorts to manuals or treatises of the day—admirable as they are in many respects—it is only to come across a text that is dry, technical, and consequently unattractive. It has occurred to the writer that principles of parliamentary practice are capable of being treated so as to make a work interesting and entertaining, no less than instructive. In other words, that an experiment might be made to impart to the subject a literary form. I have tried to write a book that shall be readable; that shall engage the attention and sustain the interest of what is known as "the general reader."

Legislative experience is not without its humorous incidents. These I have not hesitated to use, in order to keep the reader fairly well entertained. The treat-

ment, I feel sure, will nowhere be found lacking in seriousness.

Let me add that great pains have been taken to render this work, unpretending as it is, a correct and reasonably complete guide to what is now the approved practice of our various legislative bodies, state and national.

F. W. H.

Craighten
New Castle, New Hampshire
24 September, 1900

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