

CHAPTER II.

§ I. *Executive and Legislative Councils.*

1. IN every British Colony there is a Council exercising Legislative authority, either as one of the branches of the local Legislature, or as the single Legislative Body. The only exceptions to this general rule arise in British Guiana, where the Legislative power resides in the Court of Policy ; in Gibraltar, where the Governor is not assisted by any Council in the exercise of his Legislative powers ; and in Heligoland, where the Danish system continues.

2. In some Colonies the authority of the Legislative Council rests on special Acts of Parliament. This is the case in Canada, in St. Helena, in all the Australian Colonies, in New Zealand, in the Falkland Islands, and in the British Settlements on the West Coast of Africa. In all other Colonies, the Legislative Council is created in the exercise of the unaided prerogative of the Crown, by Commissions under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and by the explanatory Instructions which are referred to and virtually incorporated in those Commissions.

3. There is also a distinct body designated as the Executive Council in the—

North American Provinces,
Bahama Islands,