

three landowners of a village containing sixty houses or upwards within a space of sixty *arpents* might requisition the senior justice to call a meeting to consider the advisability of petitioning the parish council to fix limits and boundaries for the village or town. If the decision was affirmative, the boundaries were fixed and the election of councillors and incorporation followed, the councillors electing the mayor.

County Municipalities.

Two years later¹ Mr. Badgley (afterwards Mr. Justice Badgley) introduced successfully an Act whereby the parish and township municipalities were abolished and county municipalities substituted. The municipal council was to consist of two councillors elected for two years by each parish and township division of the county, one-half retiring annually. In event of any parish or township refusing to elect its councillors, the Governor was empowered to appoint them. Any town or village comprising at least forty houses within an area of not more than thirty *arpents* might be incorporated as a village or town and elect a council of seven. The usual assessors, collectors and overseers were appointed under this statute, and the office of deputy *grand voyer* was created. The powers of the council, which before related chiefly to matters of public order, were not materially altered, but additional powers were given which included the right to impose fines for contravention of by-laws; to compel circus companies, showmen and liquor dealers to take out licences; and to contract for the maintenance of summer and winter roads.

In 1850² municipal councils were permitted to amend their assessment tolls, when in their opinion the valuation already made was inadequate; they might also levy a rate of one half-penny in the pound upon the assessed value of ratable property for general purposes. By the same Act any township containing 300 souls was allowed to elect councillors, and to be considered a township or parish for all municipal purposes. Muni-

¹ 10 and 11 Vic. cap. 7.

² 13 and 14 Vic. cap. 34.