

rate-payers, for a term of three years; one third of the "Councillors" going out of office annually. That the Council itself shall be empowered to elect "from the Councillors, or persons qualified to be Councillors," a proportionate number of persons to be "Aldermen," who shall be associated with them in the control and direction of local affairs. These Aldermen are chosen for six years, one half going out of office every third year. If Councillors are elected Aldermen, they retain their seats in the Council until the term of six years is expired; notwithstanding that, as Councillors, they were elected for three years only. This regulation—which combines the advantage of an annual infusion of members, recently approved of by the local constituency and thus truly indicating its sentiments, with that of securing the presence of experienced members, who are conversant with the routine of business,—has, in every instance where it has been fairly tried, proved most salutary in its operation (a). In addition to its more obvious advantages, this plan has the further merit of tending to secure "to whatever party may be the strongest for the moment in one of these Councils, a sufficient majority for the transaction of business" (b). It may therefore be

(a) Knight's Political Cyclop. v. 3. p. 390.

(b) Grey, Parl Govt. p. 229.