

former is, legally, within the latter; because for most purposes it is wholly independent of it, and ranks as a county of itself. It does not contribute to the ordinary county rate (p. 363); though it does contribute to the education rate, and send members to the London County Council.

'THE CITY'

The City comprises only a limited area of about one square mile on the north bank of the Thames, in the heart of the metropolitan area. Its boundaries and its government are alike ancient. It is governed by Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council; the last being annually elected, not by the rate-payers, but by the livery-men of the ancient gilds or 'City Companies,' who are, in theory, the free craftsmen of the city. As a matter of fact, they are persons co-opted by their fellow gilds-men, who thus have the control of the City government in their hands. The aldermen form a separate chamber of the City government, being elected for life by the wards into which the City is divided; and the Lord Mayor, though nominally elected by the Livery, is, almost invariably, the senior alderman who has not 'passed the Chair.' Lord Mayor and Aldermen are alike Justices of the Peace for the City, and sit regularly at the Mansion House and the Guildhall as such. In addition to the ordinary borough officials—the Town Clerk and Treasurer (who is here called the 'Chamberlain'), the Clerk of the Peace, the Medical Officer of Health, the Surveyor, and the Engineer—the City has many other important officials, such as the Recorder and the Common Serjeant, both appointed by the Crown, who exercise criminal jurisdiction in the Central Criminal Court at the 'Old Bailey' (p. 278), the Assistant Judge of the Mayor's Court (p. 289), the Comptroller, the Remembrancer, the City Solicitor, and the 'Secondary'; its chief police officer is called a 'Commissioner'; it has, as a 'county