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districts, of specially elected Guardians. There are a few borough corporations in the older and more important towns, and a larger number of unincorporated towns under Town Improvement Commissioners.

COLONIAL AND INDIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The subject of local government in the colonies and British India, sufficiently vast and complicated in itself, is rendered additionally difficult of treatment by the facts, that information with regard to it is not easily accessible in this country, and that many of its most familiar terms have, obviously, meanings in the countries of their adoption different from those attributed to them in England. Consequently, only a few general indications of its character can be attempted.

THE SELF-GOVERNING DOMINIONS

It appears to be generally true, that no systematic effort to constitute, or re-constitute, the parochial system has yet been made, at any rate in the self-governing Dominions. This is hardly a matter for surprise; for the new territories of the self-governing Dominions were, for the most part, peopled long after the ancient parochial system of the United Kingdom had fallen into decay, and the thinly scattered colonists, bred in an individualist system, felt no desire to revive the rural community of the Middle Ages. It is remarkable, however, that, in the French-speaking portions of the Empire, *e.g.* the Channel Islands and the Province of Quebec, and, apparently, in Ontario, the parish, or *commune*, has survived tenaciously, and shows no signs of extinction. Whether this fact is due to the intense feudalism of Old France, or is an evidence of strong popular resistance to that feudalism, is a problem too difficult to be handled here. It is part of the larger and still unsettled question: whether