

minor criminal jurisdiction; but the municipal franchise in Scotland, though it will probably be greatly extended by the provisions of the pending Representation of the People Bill (p. 367 n.), appears at present to be much more restricted than the English, and not to include all the burgesses of the burgh. Many of the royal and parliamentary burghs have separate Commissions of the Peace (p. 373). The police burghs, as their name implies, have more restricted powers, being governed by elected Commissioners, chiefly concerned with police matters. These powers are elaborately defined by a great Act of Parliament of the year 1892; and, in fact, they include a considerable number of matters of public health and convenience, such as lighting, paving, and sanitation. Formerly the royal and parliamentary boroughs alone sent delegates to the annual Convention of Royal Burghs; but now all burghs have that privilege.

IRELAND

In Ireland there are no parish councils; and the modern English system of county government was not introduced there until 1898. In that year, however, elective county councils were established, to take over the administrative duties of the old Grand Juries, including the important subject of the county 'cess,' or rate. But the counties are subdivided into urban and rural health districts, which share with the county councils the administration of the laws affecting public health. An interesting section of the Irish County Councils Act contemplates the ultimate decision of disputes arising out of the exercise of a county council's road-making or road-widening powers, by a Judicial Committee of the Irish Privy Council. The subject of poor relief is handled in Ireland, much as in England, by Boards of Guardians, consisting, in rural districts of the district councillors, and, in urban