

## COMMISSIONERS' COURTS.

**Chap. 17.**—These Courts where established in any parish or township continue to have jurisdiction over the whole, though incorporated villages are formed out of parts of it, till the L. G. in C. establishes new courts for them. When a parish or township is divided or a portion detached the L. G. in C. settles the jurisdiction of the existing Court on petition. This Act does not affect pending cases.

## MUNICIPAL CODE.

**Chap. 18.**—Municipal corporations may have and use a seal, but its use is not obligatory. Where lots cannot be described by number and range or street a resolution of Council settles their description. Railway Cos. must maintain the fences, roads and bridges upon and through property occupied by them, according to law and *procès verbaux*, although of no direct advantage to them. A new municipality may be formed out of part of a township or several adjoining townships whether united or not or whether comprised in a civil or canonical parish or not. When the limits of a village municipality contain portions of two or more townships or parishes, the inhabitants of the portion in one of them may apply to be re-annexed to it, if there be left in the village 60 arpents in superficies and 40 inhabited houses. A municipality formed of a part of another may receive its new name from the County Council. When there is in a rural municipality a group of 60 houses upon 250 arpents, two-thirds of the inhabitants may obtain a resolution of Council declaring it an unincorporated village, and the rural Municipal Council may thereafter apply to it the laws relating to villages, except as to a separate Council. The parties petitioning for the separation and incorporation of a village must be resident electors and proprietors. The proclamation erecting it comes into force on the day of its publication in the *Gazette*. The Council may tax costs of proceedings held before it or one of its committees allowing 50 cts. per day to witnesses. The presiding officer of a Council has all the powers of a Returning Officer at an election under Art. 301, to preserve order and the peace—subject to appeal to the Council. If a Council does not exact security from the Secretary-Treasurer within 30 days after his appointment he may continue to act, but they become jointly and severally liable as his securities. He may furnish the security of a policy in a guarantee Co. approved by the Council. Persons who have legal right to examine the books and documents in his office may take extracts therefrom or make copies. The Secy.-Treas. annual account is to be made up during each January, to the 31st of the preceding December, and he may be called on for accounts more frequently. His return to the Prov. Sec. is to be made up in the January following the year in which the valuation roll is made. It need not contain the nos. of horses, sheep, pigs and horned cattle. He is not liable to the penalty for the non-transmission of the return unless he has been furnished with the necessary blank forms. His office may not be kept in any place of public entertainment where spirituous or fermented

liquors are sold. In default of the Municipal Council appointing a Sec. Treas., the L. G. makes it with approval of the Executive Council. The auditors are to make their audit during February—not May. The County delegates appointed to act with the Warden must be members of the Council, but continue in office till their successors are installed, although they cease to be such members. A person who is not a municipal elector for the place cannot be elected a councillor. If demanded he must file a declaration in writing and under oath of his qualification. If he fail to do this within 8 days he vacates his seat; but may file it and resume his seat at any time before the vacancy is filled,—paying all costs made. Possession of an elector's qualification need not have been for 6 mos. The election in a newly-erected municipality is to be held on a day fixed by the warden 15 to 30 days after the proclamation. Where no poll is demanded the presiding officer at a municipal election must decide upon those elected by a show of hands. The return of the Secretary-Treasurer to the County Council under Art. 373 need only be made if the Council orders it. If, in the opinion of the Council, work to be done in common is not sufficiently important to proceed under Art. 32, the road inspector hires it done and collects the cost in equal proportion from the rate payers liable. Art. 406 respecting a bridge becoming dangerous is also applied to a municipal road, use of which has become difficult or dangerous. The expense of the repair of fences where not done by the party in default according to the decision of the rural inspector, but by the complainant or others authorized, is to be collected as municipal taxes are. Public works benefitting the municipality may be aided though constructed by individuals or firms—not by the Government or corporate bodies,—and aid may be granted by giving or lending debentures as well as money. Authority is given to acquire property for the use of a municipal corporation by lease. Corporation funds may be invested in first hypothecs. Deposits in a bank to credit of the sinking fund of municipal debentures may, with consent of the bank, be removed by the municipality and invested in the purchase of such debentures, the bank being authorized to pay on receipt of a resolution of Council to that effect. Fine and imprisonment for offences against municipal by-laws may not both be imposed by them. A city or town within a county municipality must contribute its share to the maintenance of the registry office. To determine this, it must furnish the County Council with its valuation. If it do not, the County may take other means to determine and collect the amount. By its by-law a local Municipal Council may substitute the corporation for rate-payers as to any responsibility for local or county roads or bridges. The cost of sidewalks or sewers may be assessed by Local Councils upon the rate-payers directly interested only. Ferry licenses may be granted for 5 yrs. Children or apprentices may be prevented, by by-law, from frequenting places where intoxicating liquors are retailed. Deposits of detritus or remains of dead animals may be prohibited. Power is given, after the erection of waterworks, by by-law approved by the ratepayers