

cette province, votre pétitionnaire ose esperer que votre excellence voudra bien faire parvenir la présente petition au pied du trône de sa majesté, et en obtenir le contenu.

Et votre pétitionnaire ne cessera de prier, &c. &c. &c.

(Signé) + J. O. PLESSIS.

Québec, 17 Octobre 1817.

CHARTER of the CORPORATION of SAINT NICOLET.

Province of Lower Canada.—Letters Patent incorporating the Reverend Joseph Octave Plessis, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church of Quebec, and Four other Members, for the superintending and Management of the Seminary at Nicolet.

GEORGE the Fourth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c.; to all to whom these present Letters shall come or may in anywise concern, Greeting.

Whereas the Reverend Joseph Octave Plessis, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church of Quebec, by his Memorial bearing Date the 20th Day of August 1819, hath humbly represented to Us, that when he took possession of his Church, in the Year of our Lord 1806, he found in the Parish and Seigneurie of Nicolet in the District of Three Rivers, in Our Province of Lower Canada, a Seminary then in its Infancy, to which, and to the Advancement thereof, he considered it his Duty to give particular Attention, and in which he was in a few Years enabled to establish a competent Number of Professors for the Purposes of general Education; that by means of much Care and Economy he has hitherto supported the said Seminary, and by his own Savings, and the Contributions of his Friends, has enlarged the Buildings, so as to be able to receive therein Seventy Pensioners; and that many Individuals would, by more liberal Contributions, form Funds sufficient for the Endowment of this Seminary, if it were permanently established by Our Letters Patent: And whereas to facilitate the Attainment of such Letters Patent the said Joseph Octave Plessis has offered to give up, in favour of the Establishment, his Right and Title to the House now used as the Seminary at Nicolet aforesaid, which, with its Dependencies, he considers to be worth 3,000*l.* Currency, and has also offered, by way of beginning the said Endowment in favour of the said Seminary, after Payment of the Seigneur's Dues, an Extent of Land of about 250 Acres, to him also belonging, in the said Parish of Nicolet, of which a considerable Part is in Cultivation: And whereas by Deed of the 4th May last, duly executed before Notaries, and of which Mr. Plasté, one of the said Notaries, hath kept the Original or Minute, the said Joseph Octave Plessis did give, grant, transfer, and set over unto the Trustees herein-after mentioned, in the Hope and on the express Condition that the said Establishment should be by Our Letters Patent vested in the said Trustees, in default of which it was declared that that Deed should be null and of no effect, all the Goods, Lands, and Tenements, Ground Rents, Annuities, and the Principals of the same, with all the Dependencies and Appurtenances, without Exception, as the same are in and by the said Deed described: And whereas the said Joseph Octave Plessis humbly entreated Us, that this Property should henceforth be administered, and the Education of the said Seminary be directed, by a Corporation of Five Members or Trustees, composed of the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church of Quebec, of his Coadjutor, of the Grand Vicairé of the District of Three Rivers, of the Curé of the said Parish of Nicolet, and of the eldest of the other Curés of the District of Three Rivers, and by those who may succeed them in their respective Offices; which Trustees might be authorized to acquire, in the Name of the said Seminary, sufficient Funds to constitute an annual Income of 2,500*l.* Currency, without Power, in any Case, to exceed that Sum; and that for that Purpose the Accounts of the Receipts and Disbursements might be submitted to the annual or triennial Inspection of such Officers or Commissioners as should be appointed by Us