

dinances by which every transaction was subject to the approbation of the Roman court, keeping for the rest the very large ordinance which requires the approbation of His Majesty the Emperor, in order to sell and mortgage any ecclesiastical estate which exceeds the value of 100 florins,—the procedure varying in accord of the increase of their value of 1,000, or 8,000, or 20,000 florins.

FRANCE.—In regard to the associations or *œuvres* which, in some way, are destined to the religious propaganda, there exists in France quite a different rule.

The missions, so called *interieures*,—that is those whose fields extended only to the interior of France,—are governed by an explicit interdiction, in virtue of a decree of the 26th September, 1809, which has never since been abrogated.

The missions—*exterieures*—are not subject to the same positive interdiction, but are not authorized. Four congregations only pretend to have been legitimately recognized, by a decree in date of the 8th Messidor XII. This pretention is contested, but in fact no one opposes any difficulty to the recognition of the personalities of these four congregations whose special business is to recruit the clergy for the colonies, and which are called Lazaristes, Fathers of foreign missions, Fathers of the Holy Ghost, and Sulpiciens. These four congregations, then, by an exception, and as if they were true persons, have the right to acquire. Nevertheless, the guardianship of the government is exercised over each one of their actions by an authorization of the President of the Republic,—an authorization which he grants in the Council of State. On several different occasions these four congregations have