

## ARTICLE III.

*Board, or Court of Triers.*

There shall be an Ecclesiastical Court, or Board of Triers, for the Diocese of Montreal to try such charges as may be preferred against any priest or deacon of the said diocese.

It shall be composed of fifteen priests, who shall be annually elected by a majority of the clerical order of the Diocesan Synod at its annual meeting, and who shall continue in office until others shall have been chosen in their places.

The Bishop shall have power to fill all vacancies which may occur by removal from the diocese, by death, by election to the episcopate, until the next meeting of Synod.

The Court of Triers shall name from among their body a secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a record of all the proceedings had before the Court.

The Church Advocate (as hereinafter appointed), shall give notice in writing at least \_\_\_\_\_ days before the day fixed for the trial, to the party accused, to attend before the Clerical Secretary of the Synod, time and place being mentioned in the notice, when and where the party accused, shall strike from the list of triers, elected as aforesaid, one of the names, and the Church Advocate shall strike off another, and so alternately until the number shall be reduced to *five*, which five shall form the Court for the trial.

If the accused shall neglect to attend in person, or by an agent, the clerical secretary of the Synod shall strike the list with the Church Advocate, in place of the accused so absent.

The accused and Church Advocate may, by a written consent, filed with the Clerical Secretary of the Synod, agree upon any five or three of the Board of Triers, to form the Court.

The Bishop shall issue a precept, addressed to the members of the Court of Triers, so struck or agreed upon, requiring them, or any *three* or more of them, to proceed to the trial of the accused at the appointed time and place; which precept, together with a certified copy of the charges, shall be transmitted by the Bishop to the president of the Court (to be named by him), whose duty it shall be, on receipt thereof, to cause all the members of the Court, or Board of Triers, to be summoned to meet at the prescribed time and place, any *three* or more of whom, who shall attend in pursuance of such summons, shall constitute the Court.

The Bishop shall, at the annual meeting of Synod, nominate a Church Advocate to conduct all prosecutions; he shall be