

THE
CANADIAN MAGAZINE,
AND
LITERARY REPOSITORY.

No. 13.

JULY, 1824.

VOL. III.

A Historical Sketch of the origin and progress of the Charitable Institution termed THE GENERAL HOSPITAL of the CHARITABLE SISTERS, (commonly called the Grey Nuns,) in Montreal, Canada.

(CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.)

The King and Council, after maturely deliberating on this subject, issued new letters patent, signed by His Majesty's own hand, and bearing date at Versailles, the 3d June, 1753, of the same tenor with the former. By these, Madame Youville and her companions were duly installed in place of the *Frères Hospitaliers*, and legally authorized to establish a community with its internal regulations under the surveillance of the Bishop of Quebec.

These letters patent contain, in addition to the terms expressed in those originally granted to the frères, the following provisions, viz. Madame Youville and her charitable sisters are to enjoy all the rights and privileges formerly granted to this institution. They are either by themselves or their securities to discharge as far as their means will permit, the debts heretofore contracted, according to the terms of their obligation. They are by these presents appointed, and shall continue in charge of the hospital, in the place of the frères; that is to say, they shall, in conformity to the original agreement as ratified by His Majesty's Council, continue to receive old and infirm persons; but they themselves not to exceed twelve in number, as specified in the original regulations on which the hospital was founded. They likewise obtained authority by these letters to augment their numbers by a special permission "obtained for the purpose." This number of twelve, to which they were restricted, appeared no doubt sufficient at the time for the purpose of governing the institution, but afterwards, when it began to extend its utility, and the duties in every department became encreased, they found additional assistance necessary.

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