

" Ecclesiastics of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, *established* " at *Ville-Marie*, Seigniors and Proprietors."—We have the enregistration at Montreal, in 1718, of the same Letters Patent granted " to the Ecclesiastics of the Seminary of " St. Sulpice, *established* in that City."—We find in the collection of the Laws of Canada, the Seminary of Montreal existing and mentioned in the Edict of 1623(289);—and mentioned also in the *Arrêt* and Letters Patent of 1702,(305 &c.) &c. Now by this existence itself, the Seminary is legalized : —Because in the declaration of 1743, there is in the Article IX., an exception in favor of the Establishments already actually in existence in Canada:—Because the French Laws, before the Edict of 1749, had excepted Seminaries from the necessity of obtaining Letters Patent for their Establishment ; of this kind is the Ordinance of 1659, which the Parliament of Paris would not enregister without this exception was made in it, (*Mem. du Clergé*, 593, &c.): such is the express provision of the Ordinance of 1666. In Canada then, (where the Edict of 1749 is not in force,) Letters Patent were not requisite to the establishment of the Seminary of Montreal, for which, nevertheless, they were granted. The existence of the Seminary then, for thirty years, would be alone a sufficient title [*Dict. de droit Canonique de Durand*, vol. II. page 353]; and it has existed for more than 160 years, reckoning from 1677 to 1840. The Seminary has then a legal existence, by the Art. IX. of 1743; because Letters Patent are not necessary for the establishment of a Seminary; and because it had existed more than 30 years before the year 1743.

Bishops.

This legal existence is proved by the Bishops of Que-

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