

## NOTE ON MONTREAL.

WHEN Charlevoix wrote, nothing had been published bearing on the settlement of the Island of Montreal except the tract, "*Les Veritables Motifs*," which appeared in 1674. (See vol. i., p. 82.) The Society of Montreal published no statements, and the Sulpitians had not the rule of writing to their Superiors, which, established by St. Ignatius in the case of the Jesuits, in order to keep alive a feeling of brotherhood and edification among the widely-scattered members of the order, has led to the preservation of so much information.

The early history of the movement has, however, in our day, found an investigator and chronicler in the laborious zeal of Mr. Faillon of St. Sulpice, who has issued a series of valuable works, all bearing on the history of Montreal. He treats the origin of the settlement as entirely supernatural: *Histoire de la Colonie Française*, i., p. 382; *Vie de Mlle. Mance*, vol. i. The first one impelled to undertake the settlement was a gentleman named Jerome le Royer de la Dauversière, of la Flèche, in Anjou. The second, similarly moved, in 1636, was a young clergyman, Rev. John James Olier,<sup>1</sup> who subsequently instituted the seminary of St. Sul-

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<sup>1</sup> The Rev. John James Olier de Verneuil was born at Paris, September 20, 1680, second son of James Olier, secretary to Henry IV., and master of requests in that king's palace. After a careful education under his father's care, he embraced the ecclesiastical state, and became intimately connected with St. Vincent de Paul; influenced by whose example he began to give missions in Auvergne, where he held the abbey of Pébrac, and effected great good. Refusing a bishopric and the coadjutorship of Châlons sur Marne, he accepted the parish of St. Sulpice, at Paris, in 1642, then in great disorder. Aided by some clergyman with whom he had lived in community at Vaugirard, he entirely reformed his parish, and then began a long contemplated work, the founding of a theological seminary for the proper training of candidates for the priest-

hood. This he effected, with the royal approbation, in 1645. His institute, known as the Seminary of St. Sulpice, has rendered immense service to religion, and soon led to similar establishments in other parts of France, under the direction of his community, commonly styled Sulpitians. In America they have seminaries at Montreal and Baltimore.

Mr. Olier resigned his parish in 1652, and retired to his seminary, where he died April 2, 1657, at the age of forty-nine, revered by the best and holiest men in France. He wrote a *Treatise on Holy Orders*, a *Christian Catechism of the Interior Life*, a *Christian's Day*; his letters have also been published. His life was written briefly by Father Giry; more at length by Mr. Nagot, of St. Sulpice, in 1818; and by Mr. Faillon of the same congregation (2 vols., 8vo; Paris, 1853).