

THE EARLY CATHOLIC CHURCHES
OF CLAYTON TOWNSHIP, PERRY COUNTY, OHIO

As in many other parts of Ohio, Catholic pioneers began settling in the southeast part of Township 16, Range 15, of Perry county in the 1820's. Except for four sections which are in the present Harrison Township, the area is now embraced by Clayton township.

Who these early settlers were is not known. But in 1827, or the year previous, they built a log church near the present Clover Hill. It was named St. Patrick's (1). As the name signifies, Clover Hill is an elevated spot, and is at the junction of county road 345 and township road 162.

The little church was cared for by the Dominican Fathers of St. Joseph's, Somerset, eight miles farther west in Township 16 (now Reading township). The people came from areas where there were to be churches later: Rehoboth, New Lexington, South Fork and McLuney Hill.

After a few years the increase in numbers attending made it evident that the little log chapel was not adequate. Accordingly, it was decided to provide larger accommodations and in a better location. On April 28, 1832, Henry Shanen and his wife sold to the Literary Society of St. Joseph's (2) Lot No. 19 in the town Rehoboth which is about three miles south and a little west of Clover Hill. The new property comprised one-fourth acre. E.S. Colborn in his History of Perry County (3) wrote: "Dr. Poujade, a Frenchman, who had built a large frame structure, near the south end of Rehoboth, intended for a grist mill, which he proposed to run by means of a sort of perpetual, endless pump, an invention of his own, upon realizing that the machine would not work, effected a sale of the premises to the Catholics, and the large frame edifice was converted into a house of worship. It was thus used for about twenty years, the congregation most of the time being very large. The communities now accommodated by the churches at New Lexington, McLuney, and South Fork, nearly all worshiped there. At last the building was moved to a back lot, with a view of erecting a new and commodious brick edifice on the spot where the old frame house stood." The brick edifice was not built.

The property bought in 1832 did not provide space for a cemetery. Hence, on May 20, 1834, John Carr and his wife, for one dollar, sold to St. Joseph's Literary Society for the purpose of a Catholic burying ground one acre of land (5). The church at Rehoboth was dedicated to St. Louis Bertrand, prominent saint of the Dominican Order (6).

It is not known how the property of Dr. Poujade could be the same as that sold to St. Joseph's Literary society by Mr. Shanen and his wife. But if the grist mill was bought, the parishioners evidently remodeled it to make a sizable and attractive church. Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati in reporting his episcopal visitation of 1834 wrote to the Catholic Telegraph (7): "On Sunday in the octave of the Ascension Confirmation was administered to seventeen persons in the church of St. Lewis at Rehoboth. The church is a well built frame edifice, forty by thirty-five feet, remarkably neat and in every respect highly creditable to the Catholics of the town and its vicinity. They intend to enlarge and add to it a considerable lot on which a residence for a clergyman may be, in the course of time, erected."

In 1837 the Literary Society of St. Joseph's purchased additional property in Rehoboth. James Brown, John Noon and Lydia, his wife; John Carr and Magdalene, his wife, sold to the Literary society (8) "two certain In Lots situate in the town of Rehoboth. . . numbered on plat of said town Sixteen and Seventeen. . . also five feet in front on the South side of Lots number eighteen and fifteen, and extending back the whole length of said Lot in said town. . ." The price was \$150. Evidently this property was to enlarge the Lot 19 ($\frac{1}{4}$ acre) bought in 1832, and was the location of the church.

It seems that from the beginning the log chapel at Clover Hill and, later, St. Louis Bertrand in Rehoboth, were attended by the Dominican Fathers of St. Joseph's, Somerset. The national Catholic Directory through these years a notation to this effect, beginning in 1833. However, it does give the Rev. N. D. Young, O.P., as in charge in 1834, and the Rev. J. H. Clarkson, O.P., in 1838 and 1839. Father Mannes D'Arco, O.P., took charge in 1847 and apparently remained so and continued as pastor at St. Dominic's, McLuney, which replaced Rehoboth.

In the late 1840's the Rehoboth church seems to have become too small for the growing congregation. At any rate, property was bought across the line of Clayton township in Harrison township on Sept. 22, 1849 (9). The new location was east and north of Rehoboth and a short distance southeast of Clover Hill. The church built there was dedicated to St. Dominic. It became known as the McLuney parish.

Few sacramental records of the St. Louis church, Rehoboth, have been found. Father D'Arco officiated at two marriages in the church in 1849, both on November 4 (10). Patrick, son of John McMullen and Margaret Boyle, married Emilia, daughter of Michael Gibbins and Grace Sweeny; and Michael, son of James Fealty and Catharine Shields, married Rosanna, daughter of Charles McNamee and Mary Nugent.

Two burial records are found, both of 1849. On July 15, Joseph, son of Jesse Gerri and Mr. Miller, was buried. He was three months of age. On August 9, Catharine Chapman, daughter of S. Chapman and Elizabeth Corron, was buried. Her birth date was given as June 25, 1844.

Although the Dominican Fathers attended Clover Hill and, afterwards, St. Louis, Rehoboth, there is a letter (11) of Rev. James McCaffrey, written from Marietta, Ohio, to Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati, on Jan. 5, 1844, in which he states that he has a choir master "who has proposed a choir at Rehoboth and at Sunday Creek [Chapel Hill]." This would indicate the growth and size of the parish at Rehoboth.

It is regrettable that there are no other records of baptisms, marriages and deaths extant of St. Patrick's, Clover Hill, and of St. Louis Bertrand's, Rehoboth. They are probably included among the early records of St. Joseph's, Somerset, and are not distinguishable as belonging to the two Clayton township missions.

Also of regret is the fact that the little Rehoboth Catholic cemetery is now used for other purposes, most likely a cow pasture. What few tombstones there were are now gone, and the space is no longer recognizable as a burial grounds. In fact, hardly anyone knows its location.

- (1) History of St. Joseph Province by Very Rev. Victor O'Daniel, O.P., 1942, p. 94n.
- (2) Perry County Deed Books, Vol. O, p. 14.
- (3) History of Perry County by E. S. Colborn. 1883. p. 188.
- (4) Dr. John Poujeade and his wife, Mary, were members of St. Joseph's, Somerset, in 1819 when their daughter, Elizabeth Rebecca, was baptized. In 1822 Mrs. Poujeade was a sponsor at a baptism at St. Joseph's. The 1820 Federal Census for 1820 lists John Puizade as living in Somerset.
- (5) Perry County Deed Books, Vol. T, p. 709.
- (6) St. Louis Bertrand was a well-known Dominican missionary. When Ohio was conditionally established as a Province in 1824, it was to be known as the St. Louis Bertrand province. Cf. History of St. Joseph's Province, op. cit., p. 45.
- (7) "The Catholic Telegraph", Cincinnati, Ohio, May 32, 1834, p. 105.
- (8) Perry County Deed Books, Vol. J, p. 484.
- (9) Perry County Deed Books, Vol. T, pp. 203 and 262.
- (10) St. Joseph's, Somerset, Records of Marriages.
- (11) Purcell Letters, Archives of Notre Dame University.

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THE HISTORY OF ST. MARY'S PARISH
MINERTON, VINTON COUNTY, OHIO

Some additional Notes (1)

Although the little mission of St. Mary's, Minerton, was not officially listed in the national Catholic Directory until 1848, priests were visiting the area for some years before that date. The first accounting of the mission, then known as "Quinn's Settlement", was by Father Joseph O'Mealy, pastor of the Church of the Nativity, Portsmouth. In the earliest record book of the parish is found the following:

Quinn's Settlement, Gallia County (2), 25 August 1842

Patrick Quinn and wife.....	2
Daniel Quinn and wife and 5 children under 14.....	7
Simon Doran and wife.....	2
William Harris and 2 children over 14.....	3
Gabel McKinchy and wife and 7 children (3 over 14).....	9
Thomas Garrett and wife.....	2
Peter Boyle and wife and 6 children (4 over 14).....	8
Bauser and wife and 4 children (1 over 14).....	6
John Carr.....	1
Catharine Doran.....	1

Evidently Father O'Mealy's listing was a mission census, one of the first on record. Two years later he entered the names of those receiving Holy Communion at Easter. He labeled the entry merely as "Easter Communion, Gallia County, 1844."

Paul Quinn and wife
 Simon Doran and wife
 Michael Bauser and wife
 John Keenan and wife
 Cath. Doran
 John Doran
 James Carr
 Sophia Sprouse
 Mary Sprouse (her first)
 Francis Holmes
 Mrs. Garaty
 James McKinsey
 Mrs. McKinsey
 Samuel McKinsey
 William McVey
 John Carr

The next year Father O'Mealy made another summary of "Easter Communicants 1845, Quinn's Settlement, Gallia Co."

Garrity and wife.....2
 Gabriel McKenzie and wife.....2
 Daniel John ----- and Redmond McKenzie.....3
 James Carr.....1
 Daniel Quinn and wife.....2
 William P. Quinn.....1
 Michael Bauser.....1
 Dolan Senr.1
 William Holmes.....1
 James Keenan and wife.....2
 Simon Dolan and wife.....2
 Cath. Dolan.....1
 Mary Sprout.....1
 Sophia Sprout.....1
 Mrs. Gallagher.....1

Sacramental records at the Church of the Nativity, Portsmouth, have some with a notation that they were performed at the Wilkesville (Minerton) mission. The following baptisms were entered by Father O'Mealy:

At Quinn's Settlement, August 25, 1842: Patrick Henry, born Dec. 26, son of Daniel Quin and Catharine Hass. Sponsors were John Carr and Margaret Boyle.

At Gallia Co., May 12, 1844: [No dates of birth given]

Charles Carrol, son of Daniel Quin and Catharine Hass. Sponsors: Drancis Holmes and Sophia Sprouse.

Aloysius William, son of Michael Bauer(?) and Cath. Wilson. Sponsors: John Carr and Catharine Dorna.

Caroline, daughter of Martin Sprouse and Frances Pierce. Sponsors: Simon and Brigid Doran.

Henry, son of Martin Sprouse and Mary McLinn. Sponsors: Francis Holmes and Catharine Doran.

Father Emmanuel Thienpont succeeded Father O'Mealy as pastor of the early Portsmouth parish on Nov. 16, 1845. The parish records show that he baptized as follows at "Wilkesville", the Minerton mission:[Birth dates not given]

1846

- July 13 - John son of Benedict Make(?) and wife, Anna Richcold(?). Sponsors: Simon and Brigid Dolin.
- July 12 - Simon, son of Michael Bauser and Catharine Wilson. Sponsors: Daniel Cooney and Sophia Sprant.
- July 14 - Anna Mary, daughter of Sebastian Swartzwilden and Barbara Findling. Sponsor: James Sweeney.
- Oct. 18 - Joseph, son of Daniel Quinn and Catharine Steigh. Sponsors: Daniel Cooney and Joanna Cooney.

1848

- Aug. 12 - Wilhelm Hugh, son of John Keenan and Susanna Savage. Sponsors: William and Marcella -----.
- Aug. 12 - Mary Anna, daughter of Benedict Heg and Anna Mary Ragvan(?). Sponsors: John and Anna Hank.

1850

- June 9 - James, son of John Moore and Elizabeth Sprouse. Sponsors: John Hank and Catharine Quinn.
- June 10 - Sara, daughter of William Burk and Sophia Sprouse. Sponsors: Barnabas Quinn and Mary Sweeney.
- June 10 - Sara Josephine, daughter of Aaron(?) McKinsey and Mary Helen Strout. Sponsors: William and Margaret Sweeny.
- June 10 - Thomas and John and Sara and Anna and Elizabeth, children of Richard Shelter and Joanna Moran. Sponsors: Peter Moran, James Dougherty and Anna Elizabeth Moran and Margaret Sweeny.
- June 10 - Richard Shelter and his wife, convert.
- June 16 - Cecilia, daughter of James Duffy and Helen McBride. Sponsors: Anadrew Stanton and Sara McKinsey.
- June 16 - Thomas Moran, convert.

Later in Portsmouth the Church of the Nativity gave way to St. Mary's for the people of German descent, and Holy Redeemer parish was established for the English speaking. When Father Michael Ahern became pastor of the latter parish he made visits to a number of missions in adjoining counties. Among them was that of Wilkesville, the Minerton church. Found among the baptism records at Holy Redeemer are some indicated as being at Minerton or other stations in Vinton County. They follow.

1864

- Nov. 13 - Mary Anna, daughter of James McCartney and Elizabeth Morgan McCartney, born Oct. 19, 1864, in Wilkesville Tp., Vinton Co. Sponsors: Richard McCartney and Anna McCartney.

- Nov. 13 - Wilkesville, Vinton Co., Ohio. Mary, daughter of Patrick Kelly and Anna Moran Kelly, born Oct. 26, 1864. Sponsors: John Doherty and Philomena Butt.

1865

- Jan. 17 - Latrobe Furnace, Vinton Co., Ohio. James, son of Thomas Torphy and Mary McNamar Torpy, born Nov. 23, 1864, in Milton Tp., Jackson Co., Ohio. Sponsors: James Cunningham and Joan Reed.
- Jan. 17 - Latrobe Furnace, Vinton Co., Ohio. Mary Ann, daughter of Daniel O'Donnell and Anna Conahan O'Donnell, born Jan. 7, 1865, in Milton Tp., Jackson Co., Ohio. Sponsors: John O'Donnell and Katharine O'Donnell.
- Jan. 17 - Latrobe Furnace, Vinton Co., Ohio. Helen, daughter of Jeremiah Mahony and Mary Reardon Mahony, born Oct. 12, 1864, in Bloomfield Tp., Jackson Co. Sponsors: Daniel O'Donnell and Hannah O'Donnell.
- Jan. 18 - Eagle Furnace, Vinton Co., Ohio. James Demetrius, son of William Reed and Anna Haggerty Reed, born Jan. 16, 1865, in Clinton Tp., Vinton Co., Ohio. Sponsors: Thomas Meade and Mary Anna Ruddy.
- Jan. 19 - Eagle Furnace, Vinton Co., Ohio. Katharine Anna, daughter of Timothy Gerty and Mary Farrell Girty, born Dec. 14, 1864, in Clinton Tp., Vinton Co., Ohio. Sponsors: James Burns and Mary Gibbons.
- Feb. 12 - Ambrose Edward, son of James Redmond McKinsey and Sara McKinsey, born Jan. 16, 1865. Sponsors: James Stanton and Mary Stanton.
- Feb. 12 - Agnes Cecilia, daughter of James Redmond McKinsey and Sara McKinsey, born Feb. 8, 1857, in Wilkesville. Sponsors: James Stanton and Mary Stanton.
- Feb. 12 - William Henry, son of John Kruzkamp and Elizabeth Niemeyer Kruzkamp, born Dec. 13, 1864. Sponsors: William Butt and Philomena Butt.
- Sept.23 - Edward, son of Edward Simons and Helen Fagan Simons, born Sept. 18, 1865. Sponsors: John O'Brien and Mary Lawlor.
- Sept.23 - Mary, daughter of James Simons and Isabelle Sweeny Simons, born Sept. 14, 1865. Sponsors: James Lawlor and Mary McClury.

1866

- Aug. 26 - Wilkesville, Vinton Co., Ohio. Margaret, daughter of John McCartney and Katharine McCartney, born July 13, 1866, in Wilkesville. Sponsors: Richard McCartney and Anna McClennan.
- Aug. 26 - Martin, son of James Donohue and Mary Donohue, born July 30, 1866, in Wilkesville Tp., Vinton Co., Ohio. Sponsors: Thomas Duffy and Anna McConnell.
- Aug. 26 - Wilkesville, Margaret, daughter of William Ring and Helen Whelan Ring, born Aug. 8, 1866, in Wilkesville Tp., Vinton Co., Ohio. Sponsors: Daniel Cooney and Joanne Cooney.
- Aug. 26 - Anna Mary, daughter of John McGovern and Katharine Keck McGovern, born Feb. 11, 1865, in Wilkesville Tp., Vinton Co., Ohio. Sponsors: George Keck and Mary Keck.
- Aug. 26 - Katharine, daughter of Bernard Quinn and Helen Murphy Quinn, born July 12, 1866, in Wilkesville. Sponsors: Patrick Murphy and Kath. Quinn.

(1) For the Minerton parish history see the BULLETIN for August, October, November and December, 1979, and January, February and March, 1980

(2) Vinton County was not formed until 1850. Until then Minerton was in Gallia Co.

1854 HONOR STUDENTS
ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE, SOMERSET, OHIO

The following names have been taken from the commencement program published in the "Somerset Post" of July 12, 1854. The numbers following some of the names indicate that those names also appeared in the programs for 1852 and 1853 (1).

Ahern, M. (3)	Holbrook, P. (2-3)
Bachman, Joseph	Kelley, Joseph A.
Bennett, M. B. (2-3)	Largey, P.
Beste, Francis	Lawler, John (2-3)
Begelow, H.M.	Logsdon, Barnaby
Boyle, R. (3)	McCabe, Patrick (3)
Brady, Walter	McCarty, James
Brady, William	McCormic, Robert
Brown, Alexander (3)	McCue, Benton
Carroll, William (2-3)	Magruder, C.E. (3)
Cody, Martin	Murray, Charles
Collins, John	O'Hara, James W. (2)
Collins, Peter	Orndorff, V. L. (3)
Collins, Timothy	Orndorff, H. C.
Creighton, Hohn H. (2)	Poland, James (3)
Cunningham, John	Postlewaite, James
Darr, Charles	Prenath, Francis (3)
Darr, J.	Quin, E.
Duer, John (3)	Rankins, William (3J)
Ewing, C.B. (2-3)	Rohan, Archibald
Fenlon, Thomas P.	Rudd, James (3)
Gallagher, Owen	Sliger, John
Helm, G.H.	Wilson, Christopher

(1) For the list of honor students at the college in 1852 and 1853, see our BULLETIN of August, 1878.

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MT. CALVARY CEMETERY BURIAL RECORDS
(Continued)

188 (Cont.)

Leser, Maria (33), Aug. 1
Stoles, Barbara (3m), Aug. 2
Mueck, Aloisia (41), Aug. 14
Kieblein, Helena Margaretha (43d),
July 28
Bensheimer, Pauline, (14), July 31
King, Clara Sophia (10m), Aug. 27
Stanf, Anna Maria, (35), Aug. 24
Welbinger, Nora (18m), Aug. 24
Ospann, Anna (13), Aug. 20
Heimann, Peter (26), Aug. 21
Sister Ambrosia (27), Aug. 23
Buckreis, Johan (67), Aug. 22

Vonarx, Leo (11), Sept. 3
Schwarz, Nickolaus (17), Sept. 3
Maerz, Elizabeth (32), Sept. 12
Waigant, Elizabeth (15), Sept. 10
Boerschel, Joseph (15), Sept. 10
Maiers, Crescenzia (4m), Sept. 18
Mangolt, Georg (18), Sept. 18
Eisel, Sebastian (65), Sept. 18
Beker, Ottmar (30), Sept. 21
Mueller, Anna Ida (7m), Sept. 27
Hoellenthal, Barbara (39), Oct. 6
Morsbauer, Joseph (34), Oct. 14
Heiman, Mathilde Maria (2), Oct. 14
Koenig, Anton (82), Oct. 15
Maerz, Anna (16), Oct. 17

1888 (Cont.)

Eisele, John (23), Oct. 17
 Maerz, Anna Elizabeth (4m), Oct. 25
 Bernhart, Franziska (69), Oct. 31
 Sigrist, Dorothea (22), Nov. 3
 Weber, Maria (66), Nov. 3
 Brun, Louis (21), Nov. 12
 Dienst, Gertrud (6m), Dec. 10
 Ruetter, Johan (20), Dec. 12
 King, Jacob (29), Dec. 11
 Theado, Heinrich (67), Dec. 20
 Eierman, Nora Josephina (27d), Dec. 27
 Bolander, Jakob (34), Dec. 6
 Baldwin, Horace (23), Dec. 16
 Roek, Renata Barbara (20), Dec. 24
 Haettel(?), Franz (5m), Dec. 31

1889

Bauman, Maria Sybille (72), Jan. 10
 Kelle, Herman (22), Jan. 14
 Broekhoven, Anna Maria (79), Jan. 19
 Gatterdam, Henry (1d), Jan. 23
 Altmann, Liesete (26), Feb. 2
 Gatterdam, Jo (14d), Feb. 6
 Schierer(?), Jakob (34), Feb. 18
 Huft, Theresia (66), March 5
 Keller, Maria (81), March 7
 Kuenzig, Albinus (25), March 21
 Caren, Child of John (1d), March 21
 Zengler, Joe, March 25
 Thomas, Christina Josephina (2),
 March 28
 Bote, Anna Maria (8), March 15
 Caren, Emma, March 26
 Jahrling, Elizabeth (86), May 30
 Vonarx, Elizabeth (45), April 17
 Jager, Maria Anna (81), April 15
 Schraudt, Lorena Julia (1d), May 1
 Walter, Wenzel (9), May 5
 Aschner, Joseph (1d), May 5
 Lichtenagger, Ferdinand (78), May 8
 Meinert, Flora (5), May 11
 Wenger, Regina (21d), May 13
 Hermann, Charley (59), May 15
 Trott, Andrew (59), May 23
 Shell, Regina (74), May 29
 Goetz, Maria (7), June 5
 Leibolt, Anton (72), June 10
 Stecher, Child of Bernhart (1d),
 June 10
 Oestreicher, Clemens (9m), June 19

Wagner, Flora (5m), June 19
 Hirsch, John Jakob (—), June 21
 Sentner, Anna Catarina (4m), June 21
 Lehman, Bertha Catharina (18m), June 22
 Goetz, Franziska (6m), June 23
 Maerz, Leo (2d), June 26
 Wagner, Child (2d) of John, June 28
 Lehman, Margaretha Cath. (3m), July 3
 Selig, Heinrich (9m), July 6
 Fescher, Catharina (6m), July 8
 Selig, Georg and Cordelia (—), July 9
 Stecher, Herman Heinrich (1m), July 18
 Deibel, Heinrich (4m), July 19
 Cirus, Robert Georg (2m), July 20
 Ludwig, John Theodore (6m), Aug. 4
 Niedenbänder, Mr. — (74), Aug. 7
 Kohbeiter, John (54), Aug. 9
 Stoeklein, Barbara (74), Aug. 12
 Juri, Elizabeth Maria (35), Aug. 21
 Oesterle, Friedrich (40), Aug. 29
 Thurn, Alois (5m), Aug. 31
 Trott, Christian (5m), Aug. 31
 Wagner, Maria (6m), Sept. 6
 Geschwilm, Mary (35), Sept. 12
 Reilly, John Edward (2m), Sept. 14
 Brundtner, August (24), Sept. 21
 Leach, Etta (7), Sept. 29
 Bauman, Maria Anna (37), Oct. 2
 Dury, Child of Albert, Oct. 9
 Wolf, John Georg (13), Oct. 11
 Ept., Cornelia (2m), Oct. 10
 Thom, Johannes Carroll (5), Oct. 15
 Langolo, Maria (1), Oct. 19
 Frey, Louis (42), Nov. 1
 Dotter, Agnes Amelia (3), Nov. 8
 Buss, Margareta Reinhart (71), Nov. 19
 Kock, Heinrich (3m), Nov. 20
 Kuenzig, Maria Franziska (10), Nov. 26
 Engler, Mary (22), Nov. 28
 Wagner, Child of Theresia, Nov. 22
 Schab[Schal?], Joseph, 4d, Nov. 29
 Herman, Martin (36), Nov. 28
 Walter, Anna Eliz. (1), Nov. 29
 Kock, Maria Louisa (1), Dec. 3
 Teth, Anton (73), Dec. 5
 Schmidt, Minna (8), Dec. 11
 Biederman, Josephina (24), Dec. 11
 Woelfel, Maria Evelina (1), Dec. 17
 Luft, Maria Katharina (1), Dec. 29
 (End of 1889)

(To be continued)