

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

YORK, PA.

On the 17th of April 1760, John Moore entered his name for a lot marked No. 295 in the general plan of the town of York, "bounded & situated on the east side of Beaver street, containing in 'breadth' north and south 57 feet and 6 inches, and in 'length' to a 20 foot alley, 250 feet". On the 20th of June in the same year, Moore assigned his right to Casper Stillinger who shortly afterwards erected a stone dwelling house on the lot and made other improvements. Casper died intestate, leaving as his heirs, and children Michael Stillinger, Richard Stillinger, and Barbara then married to Joseph Wirt. From these three heirs by virtue of three deeds, the date of two of which is in August 1776, and of one on the 4th of May 1776, the house &c. passed into the hands of Joseph Smith, who purchased it for the use of the Roman Catholic congregation, and presented it unto them.

The former dwelling-house of Casper Stillinger now underwent alterations and repairs, by means whereof it was converted into a Roman Catholic Church. This building continued a place of divine worship until the year 1810, when, as through time and use it had lost the "glory of its first estate", it was torn down, and a second building, the present brick church, was erected on nearly the same site.

For many years there was no stated preacher to this congregation that resided in York, but preachers came to administer unto them at stated times, - at first on every sixth and afterwards on every fourth week, - from the Catholic society established in Senewago township, Adams County, distant four miles from Hanover.

The first settled Catholic preacher who resided in York was the Rev. Lorenzo Huber, who came here in December 1819, and continued about six months. The second was the Rev. George D. Hogan, who came here in the summer of 1820. The third preacher was the Rev. P. J. Dween, who came here in the summer of 1822, and has continued until the present time.

The right name of this church is "Saint Patrick's Church."

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