John Mary Jacquet was born in Saint Bonnet, France, August 20, 1817, the son of Claude and Claudine (Blethery) Jacquet. He was ordained at Lyons, France, Dec. 20, 1844, by Louis J.M. Cardinal de Bonal. It was hardly ten weeks later that he obtained the Cardinal's permission to leave for the missions of America. This was on March 7, 1845 (1). He thus joined a long list of French priests who had come to the United States following the revolution in their own country. During the episcopate (1790-1815) of Bishop Carroll of Baltimore, some one hundred had answered the call of the American missions.

It is true that quite some time before Jacquet there had come from the same general area of France the first bishop of Bardstown, Kentucky, Rt. Rev. Benedict Joseph Flaget. Three other American bishops who were born in the same era as Jacquet, came from the diocese of Clermont, neighboring to the archdiocese of
Lyons, Joseph Projectus Macheboeuf, born in 1812, became the first bishop of Milwaukee, and John Baptist Lamy, born in 1814, became the first bishop of Santa Fe. Both saw earlier missionary duty in Ohio. A third, John Baptist Salpointe, born in 1825, became vicar apostolic of Arizona and succeeded Lamy at Santa Fe.

Surely as a seminarian Jacquet had his heart set on the American missions. However, there may have been influencing factors. Both Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati and Bishop Miles (2) of Nashville made trips to Europe seeking financial and personnel aid. Both visited France in these efforts. Bishop Miles was at the seminary in Lyons in 1841. As a result, one of the professors, Father Louis Hoste (3), asked permission of Cardinal de Bonald to join the bishop of Nashville. It would be a few years later that Jacquet would join his former professor in the vast missionary area of the Tennessee bishop.

It was not long after his ordination that Father Jacquet received permission to leave his home diocese and go to America. He was already in Nashville by August, 1845, where he signed the baptismal register on the twenty-fifth of that month (4). He lived with the bishop while there and was superior of the little seminary during part of those early years.

Sent to Chattanooga in 1847 or 1848, he probably built the first church in that city. He made Chattanooga the center of this missionary activity, and looked after all the eastern part of the state. In 1852 a helper came and he was more free to work among the laborers on the railroads. The coal mines south of Nashville were also his concern. Priests were scarce. In 1853 Bishop Miles had only nine priests to help him, four of whom were diocesan priests, including Father Jacquet.

Father O'Daniel pays tribute to Father Jacquet in the following terms (5): "Father John M. Jacquet was another of Tennessee's indefatigable missionaries. Indeed, there seems to have been almost a holy rivalry among some of them to see who could undergo the greatest hardships and privations. From the time he left the cathedral (1847 or 1848), he knew no rest. At first his visits extended from Chattanooga to Jonesborough. Later he was commissioned to look after the spiritual needs of the Catholic laborer in the coal mines and on the railroads and other public works in the southern and eastern part of the state — mostly around Chattanooga. He is said to have built a small church near the Chattanooga tunnel, which was burned down by 'the enemy'."

"Following the toilers from place to place, he slept in hovels, subsisted on the coarsest food (which he often prepared for himself), and wore the rough garments of the ordinary workman of his day. Never was he heard to complain of his lot. He bore all and did all with alacrity, for it was for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Only one fault did the people find in him, namely that he was at times somewhat harsh and crabbed. Children are said to have feared him for this failing, which was no doubt due in part to the life which necessity forced upon him. Beneath a severe outward appearance there beat a heart tender as a mother's, no less than true as steel."

Apparently Father Jacquet had agreed to spend only ten years in Tennessee. Accordingly, in 1855 he applied to Archbishop Purcell of Cincinnati for admission into his archdiocese. Bishop Miles, loath to have him leave, wrote to Purcell that Father Jacquet "is an excellent missioner; industrious and full of zeal; plain, honest, and blunt; and one that will never deceive you." (6)

During the latter days of his stay in Tennessee Father Jacquet was tireless in attending the sick and dying during an outbreak of cholera. He lost 100 of
his flock. Before reporting to Purcell for duty in the archdiocese of Cincinnati, he made a trip to his home in France.

In 1855 he was made pastor of St. Mary's church, Beaver, Noble county, Ohio (7), with all its missions and stations. His new field of labors was scarcely less arduous than the one he had left, though here his parish was not so vast. His parishioners at Beaver were farmers. The little parish was the center of missionary activity for miles around. He remained there for thirteen years, travelling on horseback to visit missions in Noble, Belmont and Guernsey counties.

Probably the most important of Father Jacquet's missions while at Beaver was the one in Belleair. He made the trip there of some 30 miles twice a month. In 1857 he bought property there and built the first church. It was a brick edifice dedicated by Archbishop Purcell under the title of St. John. Father Jacquet also started a school in Belleair, though there were very few students in the beginning.

On May 5, 1865 (8), Father Jacquet reported to Archbishop Purcell that he had 1250 souls in his missions. Of these nearly 500 were in Belleair. "It makes my heart ache," he wrote, "to think that I had here only 100 Easter Communions." At Beaver the school was "doing well. I have for teacher a young lady of Wheeling. We have over 40 children." At that time the church at Washington (9) was for sale. He was asking $1,000 for it.

One of Father Jacquet's altar boys at Beaver whose father was prominent in the establishment of the parish and in the erection of the church, was Nicholas Gallagher, who wished to become a priest. His pious parents gave him permission at the age of ten to live with his pastor, who for seven years instructed and directed him, preparing him for the seminary. The young man often accompanied Jacquet on his missionary journeys. He became a priest of the diocese of Columbus and in 1882 was consecrated Bishop-Administrator of Galveston. (Father Jacquet was also an influence on another southern bishop. Anthony Durier as a seminarian spent his vacations in the Beaver parish, and assisted in giving instructions. He later became bishop of Natchitoches, La.)

Father Jacquet was "a man of powerful frame and in his truly apostolic life has partaken of the rude labors of pioneer farmers in Ohio, working with his own hands with his flock" (10). "It is said that when he left St. Mary's in Noble county, he sold a little piece of ground he had tilled and the few farming implements he possessed to the neighboring farmers, who were all anxious to have something that he had used, but on one article there were no bids, the great maul with which he split fence rails — it was too heavy for the sturdy farmers to wield!"

Bishop Rosecrans, first bishop of Columbus, appointed Father Jacquet pastor of St. George's church (11), Coshocton, in February, 1869. From there he took care of five missions: St. Nicholas, Franklin township, and St. Mary's, Linton township, both in Coshocton county, and given as Wills Creek; St. Elizabeth, Killbuck Creek, in northern Coshocton county, St. Ann's, Dresden, and St. Mary's, Mattingly Settlement, both in Muskingum county. In 1889 he was relieved of the last two.

In 1874, a few years after his arrival in Coshocton, Father Jacquet made a census of his parish and of each of his five missions listing in his record books the names of all the families. Noticeable was the fact that he gave only one or
two mixed marriage families in each place. About the same time he began to record annually the names of all who fulfilled their Easter duty in each of his several churches.

Father Jacquet was faithful to his charge. He was away, however, for three months in 1878. Leaving in May of that year he went to Europe. During his trip he visited Lourdes in southern France where just 18 years before the Blessed Virgin had appeared a number of times to St. Bernadette. He wrote from there on July 4 that two days before a pilgrimage of 2,000 people had arrived, still fasting that they might receive Holy Communion at Mass at the shrine. From Lourdes he went to his home to spend a week with his mother, but expected to be back in Coshocton about August 10.

An indication of the comparative size of his parishes is contained in a report sent to Bishop Watterson of Columbus on January 2, 1885. He was giving the results of a diocesan assessment. Everyone had been asked. The results were: St. George's, Coshocton, $40.76; St. Mary's, Mattingly, $27.45; St. Elizabeth, Killbuck, $20.80; St. Mary's, Wills Creek, $11.95; St. Nicholas, Wills Creek, $11.20, and St. Anne's, Dresden, $5.50.

Of his two missions in southern Coshocton county, one, St. Nicholas in Linton township, was made up of Catholic German settlers; the other, St. Mary's, in Franklin township, of French people. Both were small missions. Gradually Father Jacquet was able to bring about the union of the two groups. In his census report to the diocese in 1886 he was able to state that a new church for the combined congregations would be ready for divine services on All Saints' Day, Nov. 1. The new church was built on the top of a beautiful God-made hill on the boundary line of the two townships. It is today a mission of Coshocton, known as Our Lady of Lourdes, Wills Creek. It may be that Father Jacquet's trip to Lourdes influenced his selecting the name for the new church.

In 1889 Father Jacquet was relieved of two of his missions, St. Anne's, Dresden, and St. Mary's, Mattingly. The next year, 1890, two young men of St. Mary's were ordained priests, Jerome B. Mattingly, and his cousin, Julius F. Mattingly. Another of the parish was in the seminary, and would not be ordained until 1895, Theodore J. Mattingly.

Father Jacquet's mission in Monroe township, northern Coshocton county, was served by a rather small log chapel, built in the early 1850's. It was dedicated to St. Elizabeth, and designated as being at Killbuck Creek, since that stream was not far away to the east. But the little congregation had outgrown the little church. Accordingly, in 1892, it was replaced by St. Rose's, Spring Mountain, a small village about a mile north of St. Elizabeth's. It was the last of the churches built by Father Jacquet.

He was now advanced in years and growing infirm. There was one major event waiting, the golden jubilee of his ordination on Thursday, Dec. 20, 1894. He "was induced by his brethren of the clergy and the congregation under his charge, to celebrate in a public manner." (12) Bishop Watterson presided at the Solemn Mass and preached on the priesthood. Assisting Father Jacquet were Revs. James Hartley, Steubenville, deacon; Austin A. Cusih, Dresden, subdeacon; Owen J. Syman, Steubenville, master of ceremonies; Walter Ross and Jerome Mattingly, Athens, acolytes, and Julius Mattingly, Thurifer. Chaplains to the bishop were Very Rev. Francis Specht, Columbus, and Rev. B. M. O'Boylan, Newark. Many other priests were present in the sanctuary and the church was filled to capacity.
After the Mass a banquet and program were held at the local hotel. Civic leaders of Coshocton participated. Gifts were presented to the jubilarian including a gold-bound missal from Bishop Gallagher of Galveston. Bishop Watterson closed the program with some remarks about Father Jacquet's life in the priesthood and conferred upon him the title of "pastor emeritus."

Father Jacquet continued in Coshocton until the following September. "The unceasing labors of his long life had begun to tell upon him, though illness and he had strangers.....He went to Galveston, the see of Bishop Gallagher, who had been to him as a son, and who received him almost as a father, and the mild climate of the gulf, the lightened labors of his new home filled up without weariness the few short months that remained of his life. The last two weeks were spent at St. Mary's Infirmary, Galveston." (13) He died Oct. 24, 1896. "All his life he had prayed that he would die on Saturday, a day of special devotion to the Blessed Virgin....And on Saturday last shortly before noon, he peacefully passed away, amid the prayers of the bishop, priests and sisters who surrounded his bed." (14)

The funeral was held the following Monday in St. Mary's Cathedral, Galveston, Bishop Gallagher officiating. The Rev. J. M. Kirwin (15) preached the sermon. Burial was made in Galveston.

(3) O'Daniel, op. cit., p. 560.
(4) O'Daniel, op. cit., p. 409n.
(6) O'Daniel, op. cit., p. 469.
(7) The church at Beaver was replaced by on in Temperanceville, about two miles distant, and in Belmont county.
(8) Letter, Jacquet to Purcell, May 5, 1863, University of Notre Dame Archives.
(9) This was St. Patrick's, built ca. 1835, and was about 8 miles east of Cambridge. It was one of Father Jacquet's regular missions.
(10) "The Catholic Columbian," weekly diocesan newspaper, Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1894.
(11) The present Sacred Heart church in Coshocton was dedicated in 1897.
(14) Ibid.
(15) Rev. Msgr. James M. Kirwin was born in Circleville, Ohio, in 1872, and was ordained in June, 1895. After many accomplishments he died as vicar general of the diocese of Galveston in 1926. He was buried in Circleville.

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SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER MISSION
ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

Tombstone Inscriptions (Concluded)

41. DELONG, Thomas, Jan. 9, 1810-Aug. 3, 1894. Aged 84Y 6M 24D.
42. STREITENBERGER, Lena R. dau. of A. & M. Dief Feb. 11, 1890. Aged 2Y 10M 27D.
43. HOUGH, Leroy.
44. STREITENBERGER, Henry Schilder, son of Trsce. Died Sept. 18, 1882. Aged 21D.
   Aged 7Y 10M 15D.
   Aged 6Y 9M 21D.
47. --------, Margaret, 1863-1866.
48. STREITENBERGER, John A., died July 12, 1898. Aged 80Y 8D.
49. STREITENBERGER, Margaretha, w. of Adam, died Feb. 19, 1892. Aged 70Y 9M 13D.
50. --------, John, 1865-1870.
52. PATTERSON, Kathleen F., 1872-1943.
   Walter F., Jr., 1874-1953.
53. McGOWAN, Margaret, died Sept. 19, 1884, in her 69th year.
54. JUMP, Mary, died Feb. 14, 1899. Aged 65Y 8M 3D.
55. GRIFFIN, James E., 1860-1940.
56. FLANIGAN, Thomas, 1873-1936.
60. FLANIGAN, Michael, Dec. 24, 1869-Nov. 1886.
61. STREITENBERGER, Charles, died Sept. 10, 1887. Aged 63Y 1M 10D.
62. STREITENBERGER, Permelia, e. of John M. Died July 21, 1890. Aged 65Y 9M 9D.
63. HUNT, George.
64. FLEMING, Charles, son of J. & C. Died April 23, 1875. Aged 3Y 11D.
66. STREITENBERGER, Margaret, w. of John. Died April 4, 1887. Aged 60Y 10M 12D.
67. LENNOX, James, May 14, 1763-Aug. 10, 1874. Aged 91Y 2M 26D.
68. LENNOX, Mary, dau. of James, died Nov. 8, 1812. Aged 65Y.
69. LENNOX, Laurence, son of James & Mary. Died Feb. 4, 1865. Aged 32Y 11M.
70. HIRSCH, Mary, dau. of Peter and Josephine. Nov. 11, 1852-Jan. 29, 1882.
71. HUMMEL, Katherine, w. of Xaver. March 8, 1805-Dec. 5, 1888.
   Xaver, May 11, 1801-July 15, 1894.
73. RUDMANN, Katherina, w. of August. Nov. 15, 1836-July 5, 1868. Aged 31Y 7M 20D.
74. HIRSCH, August, son of F. & J. Feb. 20, 1846-—May 8, 1867.
75. HIRSCH, Bertha A., dau. of Frank and Agatha. Nov. 15, 1892. Aged 9M.
76. --------, Margaret, April 29, 1864. Aged 46Y.
77. CAVANAUGH, Maria, dau. of T. & M. Died Feb. 21, 1859. Aged 15Y.
78. STREITENBERGER, Peter, died July 17, 1857.
79. CAVANAUGH, Mary, w. of T. Died Sept. 1, 1871. Aged 75Y.
80. STREITENBERGER, Barbara, w. of John. Died Dec. 1, 1854. Aged 62Y 7M 24D.
81. McGOWAN, Michael, died Feb. 13, 1854. Aged 50Y.
82. HEARN, James O. died July 4, 1853. Aged 38Y.
83. McGOWAN, James G.
84. WUNDERLIN, Fridolin, June 5, 1813-Aug. 18, 1852.
85. SCHAEFFER, Johanna, Aug. 28, 1771—June 10, 1852.
86. DEBON, Martin K., son of T. & C. Aug. 3, 1850. Aged 15Y 10M 17D.
87. HUNT, Mary Ann. consort of George. Died July 5, 1850, in her 58yh year.
Register of Baptisms, 1836-1872 (Concluded)

1869 (cont.)
Oct. 17: Joseph Arcenius, b. 15 Sept. P: August Aubry and Mary Martin.
Oct. 6: Martin, b. 2 Sept. P: John Jones and Bridget Nolan.
Nov. 7: Hypolytus, b. 26 Sept. P: Justin J. Blanchard and Mary Drouhard.
Nov. 7: Laurence Joseph, b. 7 July 1868. P: Joseph Blanchard and Adeline Olivier.
Nov. 7: Charles Augustine, b. 10 June. P: Bernard Foyer and Julia Philips.
Dec. 7: Charles Mark, b. 8 July. P: Nicholas Schoppe and Magdalen Ernest.

1870
March 28: Mary Louise, b. 21 March. P: Joseph Hosfeld and Adelina Mesancon.
March 29: Frances Eugenie, b. — March, 1865. P: James Suillon and Mary Heidet.
March 29: Mary Catharine, b. 3 Oct. 1868. P: James Suillon and Mary Heidet.
April 17: Josephine Pauline, b. 3 March. P: Joseph Redoutey and Margaret Pierson.
April 24: Emma, b. 11 April. P: James Guenther and Mary Anna Steiner.
May 29: Elizabeth Catharine, b. 3 Oct. 1869. P: George Merillat and Margaret Pere.
May 29: Lucy Anna, b. 7 Sept., 1869. P: George Wielands and Catharine Hyne.
June 19: John, b. 7 Dec. [1869]. P: Peter Meyers and Magdalen James(?)

1858
Nov. 13: Etienne Hubert, b. ——. P: Jean Baptiste Cabut and Mary Pierson.

1861
May 11: Mary Stephanie, b. 17 April 1861. P: Peter Petit and Felicie Rouhier.

1871
March 25: Lucien, b. 15 March. P: Joseph Marthey and Clarissa Mougin.
March 27: Maltus, b. ——. P: August Lonier and Mary Gormezey.
April 9: Celina, b. 1 April. P: Peter Grissiees and Mary Mounott.
July 30: Edelina, b. 27 July. P: Joseph Pailliotet and Adelina Bardin.
July 31: Hyacinth, b. ——. P: Francis Girard and Adelina Martin.
Register of Baptisms (cont.)

1871 (cont.)
Oct. 15: Lucine Paul C. Chenevey, b. ---- P: Paul Chenevey and Euphrasia
Jeanmougin.
Oct. 31: Mary Jane, b. 15 Oct. P: Francis Stutz and Mary Boigegrain.
Dec. 10: Melandi, b. (May) P: John and Justine Boigegrain.

1872
March 3: Elizabeth, b. 6 March, P: Joseph and Melinda Stutz.
May 11: Louise Josephine, b. 10 May. P: Joseph Kloetzlen and Mary Martin.
May 23: Lucy, b. 1 May. P: Charles Rouhier and Euphrasia Marthey.
June 5: Joseph, b. 22 May. P: Victor Epple and Felicie Bresson.
June 9: Catharine, b. 5 May. P: Peter Grissier and Deluxa(?) Monnot.

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Note: This concludes the early register of baptisms of St. Genevieve's. Later
records are preserved at St. Peter's church, Millersburg, Ohio.

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Gifts and Acquisitions

"The Patrician," publication of the students of St. Patrick's College, Columbus,
Ohio, issues of Nov. 1911 nd May 1912. Gifts of the Hollem Family of Columbus.
"Second Annual Catalogue of St. Patrick's College," Columbus, Ohio, 1907-1908.
Gift of the Hollem Family, Columbus.
The 20-Year Class Reunion, 1958 Senior Class, Aquinas College-High School,
July 8, 1978. Gift of Anthony Lisska, Ph.D.
The Columbus Catholic Cemetery, 1846-1874, by Donald M. Schlegel, Columbus, 1983.
Gift of the author.
Family Portraits, by Marion McCandless, St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana.
Gift of Donald M. Schlegel
Guide to the Archives of the Archdiocese of Boston, by James M. O'Toole, Garland
Gift of Bishop Herrmann.
A History of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation by Brother
The Visit of Pope John Paul II to the Catholic University of America. Gift of
Bishop Herrmann.
History of Franklin County by William T. Martin, Columbus, 1858. Reprint Edition.

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