The Cemetery

A portion of the church lot at Pine Grove had been fenced off as a cemetery on August 11, 1850 to receive the remains of Herman Hacker. This was in the northwest corner. In January of 1853 Robert Hamilton, the same furnace proprietor who had refused to hear a Catholic church bell on his plantation (and who would die in 1856), with his wife Rachel donated a small strip of land 16 1/2 feet wide by 256 feet deep, adjoining the church lot on the west, for the use of and benefit of the congregation. It was used to expand the cemetery.

The next land to the west, measuring 99 feet in width and the same depth as the former strip, was donated for cemetery purposes in June of 1859 by John and Martha Peebles, Joseph and Nancy Peebles, Samuel and Ellen Coles, Samuel B. and Mary Hempstead, and Robert and Rosalie Hamilton. The deed for this lot contains the proviso that if the land is ever used for other than a burying ground, it is void and the property will revert to the former owners or their heirs. Hartley's history describes the circumstances of this donation as follows: "...on a certain Sunday of the year 1858, during Mass, a funeral party arrived with a corpse which was to be buried on this day, and as Father Rauch had finished his remarks over the dead and was blessing the corpse, a cry went out that the company's charcoal house was on fire. Father Rauch, realizing the damage for the company, requested all the men to go with him and fight the flames. This was done and the fire was subdued, thereby saving the company thousands of dollars. In return the next day John Peebles, president of the company, donated to St. Mary's a large strip of land. The first man to be buried in this grant of land was Christopher Mowery [Maurer], a foreman of the company." A third plot of land, 257 feet in depth, lying behind or north of the latter two plots, was donated by Means, Kyle & Co. in 1877. The last addition to the cemetery, nearly quadrupling its size, was donated to Bishop Hartley by the Hanging Rock Iron Company in 1913.

Father John Joseph Rauck succeeded as pastor on August 31, 1852 and remained for ten years. In some records, the parish is called St. Mary's at the Furnaces, but Father Rauck left us an alternative name, "St. Mary's Church in the Woods," in one of the marriage records at the courthouse in Ironton. On June 1, 1862 Rev. Dieter Martin Winands became pastor, to be succeeded on October 3, 1864 by Rev. Peter Januarius Weisenberger, who also had charge of St. Joseph, the new German parish in Ironton. Father Weisenberger was succeeded on April 1,
1866 by Rev. Sylvester Szczepankiewicz, who remained only about a year, departing on July 12, 1867. St. Mary's then was cared for by Father G. H. Ahrens of Ironton St. Joseph until Father Herman Fischer arrived on November 1, 1867. On January 8, 1869 Father Rauck returned and would stay for over twenty years. Little had changed on the church property during these years, except that under Father Winands a new rectory had been built in 1864. The congregation numbered about 800; many of the German families, children and grandchildren of the immigrants, moved into Ironton and there became members of St. Joseph parish.

Third Church

In 1880 Father Rauck called the congregation together and told them that the church was too small and unsafe and ought to be replaced. The old church was dismantled slowly, so as to save materials for use in the new structure. The new church was begun towards the end of 1881 and was ready to be occupied, including a new bell donated by Fredreick Klein, in September of 1882. Bishop John A. Watterson dedicated the church on September 15, in the presence of a large gathering, both Catholic and Protestant, who had come from as far as Ashland, Kentuck and Portsmouth. The new church was located east of the old one, on property that was transferred from the Etna Iron Works to Hugh Sweeney, Anthony Zahner, Joseph Mickey, Frank Klein, Henry Puthoff, and Joseph Lohrman as Trustees for St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church of Elizabeth Township in August, 1882. The property, for which $100 was paid, included 2.7 acres lying north and east of the original church lot. The trustees transferred the property to Bishop Watterson on December 14, 1882.18

The parish had a school as early as 1868, when seventy-five pupils were enrolled.19 In the 1880s and 1890s the school was described as a frame building about twenty feet square, with about 100 children enrolled. It was taught by Sisters of St. Francis from Rochester, Minn. (two in 1884, four in 1887), who lived in the original rectory of 1850. One of the teachers, Sister Mary Columba, died in 1888 and is buried in the parish cemetery.

The size of the congregation varied considerably in this period, with the variations in the local economy. As Father Rauck put it in his Englished German, "where the prices of work are best, the people are moving to." He reported 1100 souls under his care in 1884 but only 750 in 1887. In 1888 he completed a census20 of the parish and found 1,159 souls living in about 200 households. Of these households, about half had German names, 72 Irish, eight eastern European, and the others English or of uncertain origin. The Germans predominated in central Elizabeth Township, namely at Pine Grove, Royersville, Etna Station, Etna Furnace, and Vesuvius Furnace. The Irish were scattered primarily along the railroad, from Mt. Vernon Furnace and Centre Station in Decatur Township to New Richmond and Vesuvius in Elizabeth. They also comprised the five Catholic households at Old Union Furnace. New Castle, on the railroad between Pine Grove and Hanging Rock, was a large, mixed community. The Kelly's Mill vicinity in western Elizabeth Township was a mixture of German and Irish and was the home of the substantial farmers of the congregation, the Kampelmann (Compliment), Hubertus, Mônig, Dirker, Klein, Goldcamp, Orthmeyer, and Molloy households, along with some of the humbler sort.21 (This census is valuable in replacing for this Catholic community, in some respects, the now-lost 1890 Federal Census. It will be printed in future issues of the Bulletin.)

The only place outside the church where Fr. Rauck heard confessions and offered Mass was at Centre Station, "for the benefit of weak persons."
The life of the parish was enhanced by the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the ladies, the Sacred Heart Society for the men, the St. Bridget Society for young ladies, the St. Aloysius Society for young men, and the St. John Society for support of the school. Others mentioned at different times were the St. Joseph Benevolent Society and the Holy Name Society.

(To be continued)

Pine Grove St. Mary Church
Baptisms, 1842-1848
(Concluded, from Vol. XXIII, No. 5)

1845, continued
March 17, Juliana, daughter of Francis Mayr and Adelhaide Unger; spons. Christopher Unger and Angela Langwert. W. Unterthiner

April 13, conditionally, Frances Ann Richendollar, adult. JO

between May 4 & 18, at Clinton Furnace, [blank]

June 29, conditionally, Philip, son from mixed marriage. Unterthiner

NOTES
14) Lawrence County Deed 14/166
15) Deed 19/294
16) Hartley, p 331
17) Deeds 34/611 and 97/321
18) Deeds 39/542 and 40/342
19) Hartley, p 24
20) Archives, Diocese of Columbus
21) See the 1887 Atlas of Lawrence County.
In Lawrence County, July 3, Mary, Amanda Mary, Ophelia Frances, and Michael, children of John Tiernan and Amanda Buffington; spons. Anna Tiernan. JO

At Union Furnace, Nov. 28, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Frieschy and Anna Maria Meyers; spons. Carl and Mary Elizabeth Meyers. Eml. Thienpont

November 30, Henry William, son of Henry Bauman [Baumer] and Elizabeth Grauman; spons. William Wimmer(?) and Catherine Kamperman. ET

[no place listed], December 28, Edward, son of James Sweeney and Rosana McFaden; spons. Ferdinand Goldcamp and Alet Hunger [Unger]. ET

same day, Sara Jane, daughter of John Sweeney and Mary Ann Gibson; spons. Frederick Derker and Sara Sweeney. ET

1846

January 25, [blank; George per the 1850 census], son of Michael Foidt and Ann Marie Gibling; spons. George Knisler and Alet. Hunger. ET

July 5, Mary Elizabeth daughter of Bernard Kapelman [Kampelmann] and Mary Catherine Billy; spons. Henry Wieman and Mary Coolman. ET

August 16, George, son of Falter Suliner and Theresa Herman; spons. George Knisseler and Anna M. Kibbesing(?). ET

September 3, John, son of Frederick Duval(?) and Mary Kleevart; spons. Christopher Dieckey and Alaide Meyers. ET

[no place listed] September 17, Henry William, son of David Puthof and Mary Vogelsang; spons. Henry Lapkin(?) [Lipke, later Lipker] and Catherine Weeman. ET

same day, Henry, son of Augustine Kever and Catherine Rickerrer(?); spons. David Puthof and Susan Eckel. ET

September 13, Isabel, daughter of George Swansel and Elizabeth Keys; spons. Francis Meyer and Elizabeth Geislerr(?). ET

same day, John Frederick, son of John Fenke and Elizabeth Catherine Wessibing(?); spons. Frederick Kleyen [Klein] and Catherine Fenke. ET

same day, Juliana, daughter of Frederick Munning [Mönning] and Elizabeth Krukker [Kruger]; spons. John and Juliana Krukker. ET

October 4, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Meyer and Mary Elizabeth Kruger; spons. John Henry Kruger and Mary Elizabeth Meyers. ET

October 31, Juliana, daughter of Frederick Staus and Maria Kleyfort; spons. Ferdinand Goldcamp and Ardaida Meyers. ET

November 29, Catherine Matilda, daughter of Frederick Clien [Klein] and Anna Maria Fenke; spons. Christopher Onger [Unger] and Catherine Elizabeth Fenke. ET

December 27, Catherine, daughter of Conrad Mengebiet and Catherine Coolman; spons. Bernard Kamelman and Maria Coolman. ET

1847

January 18, Maria Anna Francisca, daughter of John Herming and Elizabeth Butman; spons. Francis and Mary Ann Forts [Fox(?)]. ET

February 14, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of
Henry Baumner [Baumer] and Elizabeth Gramann; spons. Joseph Gramann and Elizabeth Wimmer. ET

March 21, John Henry, son of Frederick Dierky and Julia Kruger; spons. John Henry Kruger and Maria Wealer. ET

same day, Joseph, son of John Ferdinand Goldcamp and Mary Gertrude Becksmith; spons. Francis Backsmith and Elet Meyer.

same day, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Mormon and Maria Schildmeyr; spons. Henry Louisman and Engel Meyer. ET

May 30, Christopher, son of Michael Feit [Voit or Foit] and Anna Maria Gibeling; spons. Christopher Mauer and Theresa Schilling. ET

[no place listed] July 9, Joseph, son of Mathias Kruker and Margaret Meyers; spons. Lawrence Zimmer and Francisca Miller. ET

December 4, Emilia, daughter of Francis Meyer and Emilia Ronger(?) [Unger]; spons. Ferdinand Goldcamp and Joanne Hecker. ET

[no place listed] December 5, John Frederick, son of Charles Meyer and Elizabeth Kruger; spons. Frederick Dierky and Maria Frisky. ET

1848

January 23, Maria, daughter of Francis Bernard Wheeler [Woller at Feb. 10, 1845 above] and Marie Dierky; spons. William Wieman and Julia Dierky. ET

February 27, Francis, son of Herman Hecker and Maria Anna Benning; spons. Francis Otmeyer [Orthmeyer] and Arlaida Meyer. ET

[no place listed] April 30, John Joseph, son of John Sweeney and Mary Ann Gibson; spons. Thomas Dogerthy and Mary Sweany. ET

April 9, John Henry, son of Ernest Frederick Staes [Staus] and Maria Englia Glevaen(?); spons. John Meyer and Maria Frisky.

same day, Marie Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Fost [Fox] and Maria Anna Krooser [Kreuser]; spons. John Henry Heiring and Maria Anna Heutman. ET

[no place is listed for the following records:] May 28, Sophia, daughter of Christopher Onger [Unger] and Sophia Benning; spons. Frederick Kline and Maria Onger. ET

September 25, John, son of Henry Kamelmann and Christina Rosengarden; spons. John Ernst Collman and Maria Pothoff. ET

October 15, Catherine, daughter of Frederick Dufort [Durfarth] and Anna Maria Cleyton; spons. Bernard Camelmann and Maria Berning. ET

October 16, Maria, daughter of William Wimmer and Elizabeth Dierky; spons. Henry Baumer and Maria Kullis(?). ET

The records of the parish begin in 1849. Copies have been placed in the Briggs Library in Ironton, but up to 1857 they only record available there is an alphabetized transcription.

Marriages, 1846 and 1847

Recorded at Portsmouth Nativity:

1846, Feb. 22 [no place], Frederick Daiker [Dirker] to Ulia Anna Crager; wit. Christopher Daiker and Carolina Mayer. Emil Thiempont

1846, Nov. 3 at Pine Grove, Henry Stous to Mary Clayton. ET

1847, Feb. 14 at Pine Grove, Francis Orthmeyer to Catharina Hecker. ET
The names on these two lists of communicants were recorded at Portsmouth Nativity Church, now St. Mary Church. They have been alphabetized and names have been rearranged so that surnames are first. The 1844 list is in Father O'Mealy's handwriting. It is remarkable that Father Thienpont included the Irish of the congregation in his list, whereas Father O'Mealy did not.

### 1844

- Anonymus
- Baller, Franz, wife & brother
- Beckschmidt, Matth. jun.
- Beckshmitt (sen.)
- Berning, Friedk.
- Berte, Mar.
- Boyer, Her.
- Courtney, Tim
- Dirker, A. M.
- Dirker, Christ. and wife
- Dirker, Herm. and wife
- Drentmann
- Enger, Kath.
- Engermeier, Mrs.
- Erb, Herm.
- Frank, Kasp. and wife
- Frischke, Ebert sen.
- Frischke, Erh. and wife
- Frischke, Franc. and wife
- Gofferman, Hen.
- Goldkamp and wife
- Hesbing, Mgr.
- Kampelmann, Bern. and wife
- Kampelmann, Kath.
- Klein, Friedr.
- Koering, Luise
- Koering, M. K.
- Kruse, Ger.
- Kuhlmann, Mrs.
- Lipke, Fred.
- Lipke, Hen.
- Meier, Adam
- Meier, Franz
- Meier, Herm.
- Meier, John and wife
- Meier, Karl
- Meier, Karl
- Meierber, C. and wife
- Meiers, Mary
- Mening, Friedr. and wife
- Menning, Mrs. Mary
- Mussmann, John and wife
- Nissler, Georg
- Puthof, Dav. and wife
- Reitner, Ev.
- Rolf, Ger. and wife
- Schreher, Bern. and wife
- Schulmeier, Hen.
- Trentman, Franc. and wife
- Unger, Christ. and wife
- Vissler, Hen. and wife
- Voit, Dav.
- Weiman, Hen. and wife
- Wieman, Wilh. and wife
- Winkelmann, A. Mary

This list of 1845 also was recorded at Portsmouth Church of the Nativity. It is in the handwriting of Father Thienpont, which is somewhat difficult to read. He seems to have used "Miss" for both "Miss" and "Mrs." The spellings of some names are quite different from those in the previous list. Among others, Drentmann has become Trenkman; Hesbing is Esbeck and Esping; Schulmeier now is Schopmayr; Meier is Mayr; Meierber is now Mayrber; and Schreher has become Schröer.

- Anonymus
- N. N., Miss
- N. N., Mistr
- N., Bernard
- Beckschmidt, Mathias
- Christomer, Miss
- Christomer, Mistr.
- Danler, Franz
- Denning, Miss
- Denning, Henri
- Dierke, Herm.
- Domler, Anna
- Düren, Fred?
- Eichmann, Henri
- Eickelmanke?, Miss
- Esbeck, Margarita
- Esping, Herman
- Föhler, Maria
- Frank, Henri
- Frieske, Franz
- Frieske, Maria
- Gerhing, Maria Cathar.
- Gering, Maria
- Gering, Mistr.
- Goldkamp, Ferdin.
- Goldkamp, Maria
- Kampelman, Bernard
- Kampelman, Catharina
- Kampelman, Henr.
- Kampelman, Miss
- Klein, Fred.
- Kleine, Miss
- Kullman, Joannes
- McMaken?, Miss
- Mayr, Adelhaid
- Mayr, Carl
- Mayr, Clar.
- Mayr, Franz
- Mayr, Jonnes
- Mayr, Miss
- Mayrber, Eva
Menning, Fred.  Reiter, Miss  Sweeney, Ed Mr.
Menning, Miss  Richendollar, Mrs  Sweeney, Wm?
Mühlberg, Maria  Schmid, Catharina  Sweeney, Neal
Niemer, Wilhelm  Schröer, Bernard  Sweeney, "----"
Niemer, Miss  Schröer, Bern.  Sweeney, Mary
Paker?, Miss  Schröer, Miss  Sweeney, Sarah
Peimer, Henri  Schopmayr, Mistr  Sweeney, Isabella Mrs.
Peimer, Elisa  Schwarzwald, Seb.  Trenkman, Franz
Putthof, Mistr  Sottan, Franz  Voss, Franz
Putthof, Miss  Sweeney, James and wife  Voss, Miss
Putthof, Miss  Sweeney, Jno Mr.  Wessl, H---
Reibbold?, Peter

Abstracts from The Catholic Telegraph
(Continued, from Vol. XXIII, No. 4)

December 21, 1844
The Catholics of Columbus have purchased for $600, a lot adjoining the old one, with the intention of building a new Church in the spring. It will be 120 by 60 feet. We cordially bid the project — "God speed," for their is no point in the diocese where a church as it is designed to erect is more needed.

December 28, 1844
[Ordained to the diaconate last Saturday: Messrs. Michael Byrne, James Cahill, James Kearney, Timothy Farrell. On the following Sunday, Cahill, Kearney, and Farrell were ordained priests.]

[Subscriptions: C. Snider, Somerset; James Mattingly, Zanesville; L. Anderson, Lancaster; Mrs. Anderson, same; T. McCarthy, Steubenville; F. Maguire, Marietta; T. Ewing, Lancaster.]

January 9, 1845
...on last Wednesday (Jan. 1) -- the Feast of the Circumcision, the benediction of the beautiful Church of the Nativity in Portsmouth, erected during the past year by the worthy Pastor, Rev. Joseph O’Meally. ...

The day was unusually fine. The heavens were bright and serene, and the sun poured auspiciously his most bland mellowed beams over the edifice, about to be consecrated to the service of God. At an early hour, crowds of rejoicing Catholics repaired to the church; and numbers of respectable Protestants hastened to witness what to them, was truly a novel spectacle. -- About 9 1/2 o'clock, the Rev. Clergy, in their appropriate robes and preceded by acolythes and cross-bearer, went in procession to the front of the church, from the steps of which Rev. J. F. Wood, who officiated, made some brief and impressive remarks, explanatory of the ceremony, which contributed, no doubt, to procure the prefect order and decorum so strictly observed by all present.

The explanation being concluded, the Rev. gentlemen proceeded to bless the walls of the edifice, while the accompanying Clergy, joined by a number of the congregation, sang the solemn and sublime Miserere. Having made the circuit of the church, the procession entered and proceeding to the front of the altar, finished the ceremony by the usual blessings and the singing of the Litanies.
At 11 o'clock the solemn high mass was sung by Rev. J. Emig, S.J., attended by Rev. Mr. Wood as Deacon and Rev. Jos. O'Meally as sub-Deacon. At the Gospel, Rev. Mr. Wood preached on the Nativity of Christ, in honor of which the church was consecrated. The Rev. gentleman was plain but dignified, calm but energetic, and produced, I am sure, a deep impression by the cogency of his reasoning and the sincerity of his manner.

The day, so hopefully begun, was terminated by the singing of Vespers and the benediction of the blessed Sacrament, at 3 o'clock, when an animated and energetic discourse, characteristic of the speaker, was delivered in the German language by Rev. Father Emig.

The Church of the Nativity is certainly an ornament to the improving city of Portsmouth, and may be regarded as a just commentary on the devoted zeal of its Pastor, by whose untiring exertions it has been erected and paid for within the past year. It is, if I mistake not, 67 feet in length and 39 in breadth; and is surmounted by an elegantly finished spire of 97 feet in height, from the top of which a handsome, guilt cross commands a view of the city and river. The altar is exceedingly neat; and over it is placed in a recess in the wall a stained glass painting of the Saviour -- a beautiful relic of the olden time -- whose bright and mellow colours, which doubtless have seen centuries, seem as fresh as if they had been stained but yesterday. The church is finished in its most minute details; it has a large and sweet-toned bell, and possesses what I much admire, a handsome cut stone holy water vase, resting upon a neatly rounded pedestal of the same material.

On the lot with the church is a commodious parsonage-house, containing six large rooms, and finished in a style, corresponding to that of the church. Both buildings, church and dwelling, are enclosed by a snow-white paling, which gives an air of neatness and simplicity to the whole.

The Catholics of Portsmouth have reason to bless God for thus affording them the means to meet in adoration before the altars of their faith; and their Protestant fellow-citizens may well congratulate themselves on being enabled to learn the true teaching of that divine Church whose faith is the faith of three-fourths of the Christian world; whose solemn service was performed in the gloomy recesses of the Catacombs, when the lion roared for its prey on the Roman arena, and is now chaunted in every clime beneath heaven's canopy.

As we departed from the city and floated down the river, we gazed with exultation on the cross, which shone brightly against the azure concave; and fondly did we hope, that the day may not be far distant, when the same sacred and endearing emblem of Christian hope, shall shine in tranquility, over every town and hamlet, that stud the lovely banks of the Ohio; and the solemn sounds of the morning, noon and evening chime, like angels' voice, heavenward ward the thoughts of the now, alas! unthinking crowds that journey over its waters.

CATHOLICUS

(To be continued)