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THE HOME OF THE ROSECRANS FAMILY
HOMER, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

Pictured above is what is traditionally named as the home of Mr. and Mrs. Crandall Rosecrans and family. It was the birthplace of Sylvester Horton Rosecrans, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus. The house is situated in the little village of Homer which is on State Route 661 just south of the Knox County line. The house is located on Lot 12, one of the four lots bought by Mr. Rosecrans. It was built in 1825. Sylvester was born in 1827. Later the family lived on a farm just a short distance south of the village on the east side of State Route 661.

THE ROSECRANS FAMILY AT HOMER,
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

Bishop Rosecrans of Columbus was the grandson of Dr. Daniel Rosecrans who, with his family, was among a group of farmers moving in 1808 from the Wyoming Valley in northeastern Pennsylvania to Delaware county, Ohio. Dr. Rosecrans was the son of Capt. Daniel Rosecrans, a Revolutionary soldier (1).

Making the trip to Ohio with Dr. Rosecrans were his wife, Thankful Wilcox, and six children. Four more were to be born in Ohio. Mr. Rosecrans purchased land along the Little Walnut Creek in Kingston township, Delaware county.

Thankful Wilcox (Mrs. Daniel Rosecrans) was the sister of Crandall Wilcox, an early settler in the area now known as Homer in the northwest part of Licking county, Ohio. The little settlement was first known as Burlington, named after the home town in Vermont of Col. Wait Wright, one of its early residents. When the township was organized in 1817 it was named Burlington township. In 1831, when it was possible to have a post office, the name was changed to Homer, since there was already a Burlington post office in Ohio.

Bishop Rosecrans' father was Crandall Rosecrans, the eldest son of Daniel Rosecrans and Thankful Wilcox. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Aug. 30, 1794, and was fourteen years of age when the family moved to Ohio. In 1816 Crandall married Jemima Hopkins, daughter of Timothy Hopkins, a relative of Governor Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

In 1817, Chauncey, the first child of Mr. and Mrs. Crandall Rosecrans, was born. He died in infancy. Their next child, William Starke, was born Sept. 6, 1819. He was baptized in the Church of England religion. He received the name "Starke" in compliment to General John Stark, one of his father's heroes.

While William was still a baby. Crandall moved his little family to Burlington in Licking county, where his uncle Crandall Wilcox had settled in 1818. Three more Rosecrans boys were born in Burlington. They were Charles Wesley, born in 1822; Henry Crandall, born in 1824, and Sylvester Horton, born Feb. 5, 1827.

In Burlington Mr. Rosecrans bought Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, on the north-east corner of Main and Water streets, the only intersection in the town (2). On Lot 12 he built his first home in 1825. It was under construction during the famous "Burlington storm" of that year (3).

After arrival in Burlington Mr. Rosecrans opened a tavern and store, acquired additional houses and lots, a garden and a potash factory. At one time he commanded the militia of the area. From time to time he was engaged in the construction of public works.

He also acquired a farm a short distance south of the village and on the east side of the present State Route 661. The farm home has not survived the years, but a picture of it is available.

Neighbors remembered the four Rosecrans boys as "lively and mettlesome." William, the eldest, and Sylvester, the youngest, were known as studios. They were probably already of school age when the family lived in the farm home.

There is some question as to whether or not William and Sylvester, if not Charles and Henry, attended Martinsburg Academy, located where the present town of that name is found in southeastern Knox county, Ohio, about ten miles east of Homer.

The Academy, which enjoyed a good reputation, was started in 1838, and continued until 1860. Records of the school are lost, but there is an 1841 catalog at the Ohio Historical Society library in Columbus. The catalog lists as departments of instruction English, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Intellectual and Moral Science. The titles of the various classes taught in each department are impressive. Tuition was \$10.00 for five months. Students were required to attend one of the churches in the village on Sundays, and "strict attention was paid to their moral character."

According to the academy's 1841 catalog there were 46 young men in attendance. Young Sylvester Rosecrans, who would have been 14 years of age, was not among them.

Where the Rosecrans boys received their early education seems not to have been recorded. William, the oldest, was quite capable and did a lot of self education. He also received some tutoring. He decided to enter West Point Military academy and was accepted in 1838. To prepare for the entrance examination, he spent less than three months at Kenyon college, Gambier, Ohio, to brush up on his education. Where Charles and Henry went to school is not known.

Sylvester wrote (4) to his brother, William, who was at West Point, that he had visited Kenyon college. This was in October, 1842. The following year he entered Kenyon as a freshman. He spent three years there and his scholastic record was almost perfect.

Further information of the Rosecrans family life in Homer is found in letters Sylvester wrote to his brother, William. He was at home in April, 1846, and wrote (5) as follows: "Here from the window I can look out upon our sheep and colts gathered together and basking in the sun down by the woods. Father and I have been making a garden last week. We have perpetrated a gravel walk from the front door to the road....An old ill-looking fence surrounds the house....Uncle George's boys and girls are becoming blooming dames and bearded men....Mother is well and blessed with excellent health. The boys, I guess, are determined to pay for the farm and their project for doing so, by the tobacco business, is very good."

In July of the same year he wrote from Homer that his father had gone to Illinois to buy cattle which he expected to drive east in the fall. The tobacco crop had failed because of dry weather, but the wheat was very good.

In April, 1847, Sylvester was finishing his college studies at St. John's college (Fordham), New York. He seemed to have been longing for home when he wrote (6): "It must be delightful spring at home now. I imagine the fields are plowed, the logsheaps are smoking, the lettuce in the garden is just coming up, the orchard in bloom, and the grass all green in the meadows, and think home a delightful place."

{1} The Edge of Glory, Biography of General Rosecrans, 1961, p. 8.

{2} Licking Co., Ohio, Deed Books, Vol. M, p. 194.

{3} The Past and Present of Homer, by Michael Chrisman, 1979, p. 11.

{4} Rosecrans Collection, UCLA Library.

{5} Ibid.

ST. REMIGIUS PARISH, COLUMBUS
SACRAMENTAL REGISTER, 1837 - 1846
(Continued)

Year of our Lord 1838

28. 27 May: Margaretha, born the same day, daughter of Joseph Ottermeyer and Margaretha Barbara Drescher. Sponsors Johann Jacobs and Margaretha Gugler. H. D. Juncker

29. 1 July: Wilhelmina Carolina, born 5 June, 1838, daughter of Joseph Becherer and Sophia Bellicamp. Sponsors Simon Gutteman and Maria Anna Walburga Zentner. H. D. Juncker

30. 15 July: Christina, born 24 April 1838, daughter of Johann Georg Scheffer and Margaretha Schneider. Sponsors Jacob Scherringer and Christina —. H. D. Juncker

31. 15 July: Emma Josephine, born 16 June, daughter of Joseph B. Becker and Lucy Anne Boike (?). Sponsors Henry D. Juncker and Mary Josephine Becker. H. D. Juncker

32. Nancy Mary Ackerman, wife of Joseph Knedler; sponsors Charles Cross and Joanna Russel. H. D. Juncker
[Charles "Krauss," a native of England, was naturalized in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas on October 1, 1836.]

33. 24 September: Johanna, born 15 June 1838, daughter of Thomas Griffin and Julianna Halahan. Sponsors Denis Griffin and Lucy Anne Becker. H. D. Juncker

34. 29 September: Christina, born 14 September 1838, daughter of Benedict Lotz and Magdalena Giss. Sponsor Katharina Kunn. H. D. Juncker

35. 30 September: Jacob, born 17 August 1838, son of Christoph Wittemann and Dorothea Langbein. Sponsors Jacob Anthony and Carolina Anthony.
[Jacob Anthony was living in Montgomery township in 1840 and in Columbus in 1850. He apparently was not a member of St. Remigius, because his children were not baptized there. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 411)]

36. Same Day: Maria Anna, born 28 August 1838, daughter of Joseph Müller and Regina Zuger. Sponsors Peter Schwartz and Margaretha Slitt.

37. Same Day: Magdalena, born 27 July 1838, daughter of Melchior Werner and Rosa Corhummel. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Susanna Kronenberger.

38. Same Day: Katharina, born 5 August 1838, daughter of Alois Etel and Christina Kester. Sponsors Melchior Werner and Rosa Werner. H. D. Juncker

39. 2 October: In Lithopolis, Felix, born 18 April 1838, son of John Schreiner and Barbara Wener. Sponsors Henry Wiand and Agnes Wiand. H. D. Juncker
["John Shriner" lived in Liberty township, Fairfield County as early as 1830. He was born in Virginia around 1793. (1850, Fairfield Co., Liberty Twp., p. 171)]

40. 3 October: In the vicinity of Lithopolis, Henry Joseph, born 23 September 1838, son of Anton Kessler, now deceased, and Helen Spring. Sponsors Henry Wiand and Agnes Wiand.

41. Same Day: Agnes Elizabeth, born 8 February 1838, daughter of John Kunz and Barbara Libert. Sponsors Henry Wiand and Agnes Wiand.
[John "Koons" was living in Liberty township, Fairfield County, in 1840. (p. 369)]

42. Same Day: I gave Holy Unction to Sara Anna, born 19 January 1836, daughter of John Kunz and Barbara Lubert. H. D. Juncker

Year 1838, continued

43. 1 November: Catherine, born 4 March 1835, daughter of Dennis Robert and Martha Easter. Sponsors Charles Cross and Mary Cratzer.

44. Same Day: John, born 3 August 1837, son of Dennis Robert and Martha Easter. Sponsors Charles Cross and Mary Cratzer. H. D. Juncker

45. 4 November: Magdalena, born 2 October 1838, daughter of Klemens Baer and Agnes Doll. Sponsors Bernard Riter and Theresa Scherringer. H. D. Juncker

[Klemens Bähr was born in Germany around 1805 and immigrated with his wife and family around 1834. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 378) He was in Montgomery township in 1840. (p. 201) In 1843 he was living on the west side of Front Street near South Public Lane.]

46. 11 November: Friederich, born 18 October 1838, son of Georg Schmitt and Anna Margaretha Kemper. Sponsors Andreas Kemper and Anna Maria Frind. H. D. Juncker

[Georg Schmitt - see note at #126 below.]

47. 13 November: In Springfield, Ohio. Henry Thomas, born 19 October 1838, son of Henry Will and Elizabeth Gesling. Sponsors Henry Schwieriang and Agnes Schwieriang. H. D. Juncker

48. 14 November: In Springfield. Nicolaus, born 5 March 1836, son of Adam Nitzler and Katharina Heiffel. Sponsors Nicolaus Heiffel and Katharina Pfeistenberger.

49. Same Day: Herman Heinrich, born 2 November 1838, son of Herman Heinrich Himmelgarden and Anna Maria Hüls. Sponsors Herman Heinrich Werdmüller and Anna Maria Hagedam.

[Henry Werdmüller was living in Marion township, Mercer County, in 1850. (p. 229)]

50. Same Day: Ludwig, born 24 February 1838, son of Peter Hanauer and Anna Maria Bauer. Sponsors Ludwig Hanauer and Sibilla Hoffmann. H. D. Juncker

51. Same Day: Nicolaus Joseph, born 12 March 1838, son of Godfrideric Götte and Anna Maria Bruner. Sponsors Nicolaus Spangenberger and Savinna Spangenberger.

["Godfrey Gutta," a native of Prussia, was naturalized in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas on October 1, 1836. Nicholas "Spanberger" was a contractor living in Montgomery County in 1850. (p. 274)]

52. Same Day: Justina, born 16 February 1838, daughter of Johann Kress and Savinna Spangenberger. Sponsors Adam Schrimpf and Justina Paper.

53. Same Day: Maria Agnes, born 15 September 1838, daughter of Johann Joseph Pfeistenberger and Katharina Müller. Sponsors Nicolaus Spangenberger and Maria Agnes Metzler.

54. Same Day: Anna Maria, born 25 July, daughter of Joseph Kremer and Christina Smitt. Sponsors Herman Heinrich Himmelgarden and Anna Maria Bruner. H. D. Juncker

55. 18 November: Franz, born 10 November 1838, son of Fridolin Schumacher and Maria Dern. Sponsors Hilary Willcung and Francisca Willcung. H. D. Juncker

Year 1839

56. 6 January: Stephan, born 28 November 1838, son of Paulus Kaehly and Agatha Petrie. Sponsors Stephan Kaehly and Mar a Zinder.

["Powel Kelly" was living in Ward 3 in Columbus in 1840; he was born in the 1790's. (p. 227)]

Year 1839, continued

57. Same Day: Johann Friederich, born 25 December 1838, son of Mathias Trod and Laura Ludvik. Sponsors Johann Friederich Frey and Theresia Frey.
[Mathias Trott was a "cartman" residing at the south end of New Street (City Park Ave.) in 1843. He was born around 1811. (1850, Wd. 5, p. 414)]

58. Same Day: Katharina, born 26 November 1838, daughter of Fridolin Mutter and Josephina Gerber. Sponsors Ignaz Neumeyer and Katharina Bar. H. D. Juncker
[Fridolin or Friederich Mutter was a carpenter, born in Germany around 1810. (1850, Wd. 5, p. 441)]

59. 24 January: Elisabetha Johanna Amelia, born the same day, daughter of Joseph Knedler and Nancy Ackermann. Sponsors Joseph Becker and Lucy Becker. H. D. Juncker

60. 24 February: Cornelia, born 2 February 1839, daughter of Jacob Zettler and Cornelia Spindler. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Cornelia Kuss. H. D. Juncker
[Jacob Zettler was a grocer, born in Germany around 1796, living in Ward 4 in Columbus in 1850. (p. 478)]

61. 26 February: Ignatius Frederick, born 10 November 1838, son of Ignatius Wheeler and Mary Johanna Naddenbusch. Sponsors Henry D. Juncker and Anna Naddenbusch. H. D. Juncker
[Ignatius Wheeler settled in Franklin township in the 1820's and was still living there in 1840. (p. 156)]

62. 2 March: Jacob, born 26 February 1839, son of Georg Studder and Regina Verth. Sponsors Jacob Reinhart and Anna Zettler. H. D. Juncker
[Jacob H. Studer, author of Columbus, Ohio: Its History, Resources, and Progress, published in 1873 and containing the earliest extensive history of the Catholic Church in Columbus.]

63. 3 March: Julia, born 9 February, daughter of William Wilder and Mary Brady. Sponsors Charles Cross and Elizabeth Russel. H. D. Juncker

64. 29 April: Maria Magdalena, born 29 December 1838, daughter of Franz Karl Becker and Katharina Fogel. Sponsors Morritz Bisick and Maria Anna Fogel. H. D. Juncker

65. 1 May: Margaretha, born 27 January 1839, daughter of Bernhard Burke and Margaretha Reder. Sponsors Georg Studer and Regina Studer. H. D. Juncker

66. 5 May: Johann, born 18 December 1838, son of Isidor Frey and Francisca Doll. Sponsors Georg Studer and Seba Mutter. H. D. Juncker
[Isidor Frey was a farmer in Montgomery township, born in France ca. 1808. (1850 p. 825) He was the eldest son of Joseph and Margaret Frey.]

67. 9 May: Maria Anna, born 2 November 1838, daughter of Jacob Schol and Maria Nebbeling. Sponsors Adam Schrimpf and Anna Maria Nebbeling.
[Jacob "Shull" was a farmer in Mifflin township, born in Germany around 1804; he immigrated in the mid-1830's. (1850 p. 174)]

68. Same Day: (Margaretha) Magdalena, born 14 March 1839, daughter of Bernhard Claus and Anna Maria Zimmerman. Sponsors Joseph Anton Rott Rottenfeldt and Margaretha Reinhart.
[Bernhard Claus was born in Germany; he immigrated with his family around 1837. He was a farmer in Truro township. (1840 p. 174;]

Year 1839, continued

1850 p. 368) He died on August 7, 1864, aged 67 years and three months, and was buried at St. Jacob's.]

69. Same Day: Justina, born 26 February 1839, daughter of Adam Schrimpf and Katharina Scheffer. Sponsors Wendelin Paper and Justina Schrimpf. H. D. Juncker

70. 12 May: Heinrich, born 6 January 1839, son of Ignaz Becker and Barbara Schwabbe. Sponsors Klemens Baer and Agnes Baer. H. D. Juncker

71. 17 May: Georg Franz, born 16 May 1839, son of Andreas Scholl and Katharina Scheffer. Sponsors Georg Franz Scholl and Anna Maria Wender. H. D. Jucker

[Andreas Schultz was born in Germany around 1807. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 379) In 1843 he was living on the north side of South Public Lane (Livingston Avenue) between Fourth and Fifth streets.]

72. 13 July: In Newark. Mary Louise, born six weeks, daughter of B. H. Brown and Adelaide Koos. Sponsors Eugene Koos and Susanna Kronnenberger. H. D. Juncker

[Eugene Koos was a resident of Newark as early as 1840. (P. 201) He was a sawyer, born in Baden around 1805. (1850 p. 50)]

73. 18 July: Johann Heinrich Joseph, born 16 June 1839, son of Herman Steineke and Anna Maria Hagendon. Sponsors Jacob Scherringer and Elisabetha Hagendon. H. D. Juncker

74. 19 July: Catherine, born 13 July 1839, daughter of Charles Cross and Patience Many. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Mary Russel. H. D. Juncker

75. 18 July: Peter, born 4 June, son of Jacob Scherringe and Theresia Scherringer, born Stephan. Sponsors Adam Wagner and Agnes Behr. J. G. Alleman

[Jacob "Sherringer" was living in Ward 1 in Columbus in 1840. (p. 204)]

76. 18 August: Gloria Amelia, daughter of Friederich Frey and Theresia Frey born Forbush. Sponsors Mathias Trott and — Trott. Alleman

77. 18 August: Joseph Bernard, born 1 August, son of Morritz Bisig and Maria Anna Bisig, born Kuriger. Sponsors Joseph Bernard Zender and Josephina Catharina Zender. Alleman

78. 25 August: Mary Anne, daughter of James Banton and Catherine Swanyen. Sponsors William Swanyen and Allen Welden. H. D. Juncker

[This may be the "J. Barton" who was living in Franklin township in 1840. (p. 154)]

79. 1 September: Louisa, born 24 August 1839, daughter of Nicolaus Hannauer and Louisa Vogelsgesang. Sponsors Wendolin Pappert and Katharina Schrimpf. H. D. Juncker

["N. Hanover" was living in Franklinton in 1840. (P. 151) The daughter, Louisa, was buried by Father Schonat on 22 January 1844, aged four years.]

80- 2 September: Simon Peter and Margaret Johanna, born 12 March 1838, children of Georg Müller and Rebecca McKey. Sponsor Cornelius Jacobs. H. D. Juncker

82. 17 November: Maria, daughter of Johann Died. Britzman and Maria Engelhart. Sponsors Adam Wisebaker and Maria Olding.

[John "Britzman" was living in Columbus, Ward 3, in 1840. (p. 227) In 1843, John "Bridgeman" was a carpenter residing on the south side of Mound Street near Fifth. By 1850 John had apparently died;

(To be continued)

Acquisitions and Gifts

Domina, the Official Catholic Directory of the Diocese of Steubenville, 1947, First Edition. Gift of Sister Lina Hess, S.N.D. de N.

The Aquinian, 1962 and 1965, Yearbooks of Aquinas college-high school, Columbus. Gifts of Don Schlegel.

Mission in Burma, the Columban Fathers' Forty-three Years in Kachin Country, by Edward Fischer. Seabury Press, New York, 1980. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

History of Lower Scioto Valley, Ohio, Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, 1884. Gift of Father William Patterson.

125th Anniversary of St. Lawrence O'Yoole church, Ironton, Ohio, 1852-1977, Booklet. Gift of Monsignor John Kleinz.

Far Beyond Pearls, Documents for Research, Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, Kankakee, Ill. 1980. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

Three birck of the Holy Year Dorr of St. Peter's, Rome, on permanent loan from St. Charles Preparatory Schoo.

John Paul II, a Pictorial Biography, by Hebblethwaite and Kaufmann. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1980. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

"History of Catholicism in Gallipolis, 1790-1940," Booklet. Gift of Father Charles Foeller.

St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, by Monsignor James F. Connelly. Philadelphia, 1978. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

The Churches of the Indian Schools, 188-1912, by Rev. Francis Paul Prucha, S.J. U. of Nebraska Press, 1979. Gift of Bishop Herrmann.

Gold cup, with the following engraving: "To Revd. Eml. Thienpont on 45th anniversary of his ordination. From the Clergy of Columbus, July 2, 1873. On permanent loan from St. Charles Preparatory School.

Pyx found on the Gettysburg battlefield. On permanent loan from St. Charles Preparatory School.

Silver cup given to Bishop Rosecrans from the pupils of Cedar Grove. On permanent loan from St. Charles Preparatory School.

St. Aloysius Seminary

An additional note: In a letter of Nov. 10, 1876, Bishop Rosecrans wrote to his brother, General William S. Rosecrans, that "I have been obliged to close the Seminary and take the few theologians to live at the CAthedral and St. Patrick's.....I have a dwelling built now on the Cathedral lot and the Cathedral clergy and seminarians live there. My room is there but as yet I continue to occupy my rooms in the convent where I have lived a year" (General Rosecrans Collection, UCLA).

In last month's "Bulletin" it was incorrectly stated that Father Cush, listed among those at the seminary, was ordained Dec. 22, 188. He was ordained by Bishop Watterson, May 26, 1888.

