

Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society - Diocese of Columbus

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REV. JOHN B. EIS
INTRACTABLE RECTOR OF COLUMBUS SACRED HEART

(Continued from Vol. XII, Number 1)

Bishop Rosecrans died on October 21, 1878. The diocese was placed in the hands of Rev. Nicholas A. Gallagher as administrator until the installation of Most Rev. John Ambrose Watterson as second Bishop of Columbus on August 8, 1880. Shortly after Bishop Watterson's installation, Father Eis presented to him a "MEMORANDUM" concerning his accounts with the diocese. This document is fascinating, not so much for what it tells us of Father Eis, as for the glimpse it gives us of the financial workings of the diocese in its early years under Bishop Rosecrans. For this reason it will be given here in its entirety.

"Rt. Rev. John A. Watterson, D.D.
Bishop of Columbus, Ohio.

"Rt. Rev. Dear Sir:-

"In the year 1875 the Rt. Rev. Sylvester H. Rosecrans consented to the enlargement of St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum, after I had promised that I would furnish the Chaplain of the Institution Rev. John C. Goldschmidt, the sum of \$1500.00. This amount, together with what could be gathered from other sources seemed to meet the necessary improvements. When I had paid \$750 of that money I borrowed from Mr. Louis Zettler funds to erect Sacred Heart Church and as he had a claim of interest of \$750 against St. Vincent Orphan Asylum, he included this sum with the \$750 in cash given to me in a note of \$1500, dated October 1st, 1875 which I signed.

"I then presented Rev. John C. Goldschmidt the receipt for his interest as balance of my subscription, but this was refused under the plea that I had promised my money in cash.

"Not wishing to embarrass the Chaplain of the Orphan Asylum through the want of cash, I footed the full \$1500 in cash.

"As I had borrowed this \$1500 in cash from Mr. Louis Zettler to give it to Rev. John C. Goldschmidt, my liabilities for the Orphan Asylum went therefore up to \$1500 plus \$750, equals \$2250, October 1st, 1875.

"My subscription of \$1500 for the building of St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum was made before I was commissioned to build Sacred Heart Church. [1] This commission came soon afterwards. Assuming more than my subscription for the Orphan Asylum through the refusal of Rev. John C. Goldschmidt to take a receipt of interest for cash, it became evident that by doing so I shifted embarrassment only from him to me, therefore on that same day, when Rev. John C. Goldschmidt refused to accept the receipt, I went to Rt. Rev. Sylvester H. Rosecrans to consult with him how to secure myself. After consulting together we came to the conclusion that I should buy from him the adjoining lots of the property around Sacred Heart Church, for which only one acre had been reserved, the other three acres being in the market for sale. [2] The price agreed upon between the Rt. Rev. Bishop and myself was only a general estimate of about \$600.00 a lot, and of course no deed of any kind was made. But I entered the transaction on my books a witness to this transaction is Mr. Michael Fay [3], to whom the Rt. Rev. Bishop related the matter.

"The payments were to be made either in cash to the Rt. Rev. Bishop or by collections and donations obtained through me for the diocese and by liabilities assumed by me for the Orphan Asylum. Retiring under this verbal contract, I again in 1876 October 1st, assumed \$750 of the interest due Mr. Louis Zettler for the Orphan Asylum grounds. At the same time a grocery bill was due by the Orphan Asylum to the same gentleman amounting to \$612.07. These two items were again included in a note of \$1782, signed by me Oct. 1st, 1876, favor of Louis Zettler.

"My direct liabilities to Louis Zettler for the Orphan Asylum amounted therefore on Oct. 1, 1876 to \$3612.07, considered by Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans and myself as payment made on the three acres above mentioned. (By mutual consent it was agreed to consider the original subscription of \$1500 equally with the rest as payment on those lots.

"Meantime we found out that what legal attempt we had made to rectify the deeds of Sacred Heart Church property and the three acres adjoining, in order to throw the unnecessary ground on the **market** was entirely spoiled by an unaccountable mistake made by Hon. M. A. Daugherty, our attorney. The mistake consisted in this, that the Hon. M. A. Daugherty, who was considered to be a lawyer of great ability, while trying to eliminate a condition in the original title, put a more embarrassing condition into the new deed. The consequence was that I had to pay back the purchase price of a corner lot on First Avenue and Summit Street to Mr. Thomas Bowes, who refused to own property of that

[1] According to the account of Sacred Heart's history which he submitted for use in The History of Fifty Years, he was so commissioned on May 27, 1875.

[2] The property at Sacred Heart Church consisted of lots 19 through 22 of Phelan's Mount Pleasant Addition, bound at present by Summit, First, Hamlet, and Second. The four-acre plot was donated by William Phelan of Lancaster to Bishop Purcell on October 2, 1852, "to be forever held and occupied and employed for Religious and Educational purposes and none other." (Deed Record 48/381) Some time before August of 1875 the land was further divided, into at least thirteen lots, as "Sylvester H. Rosecrans' Subdivision of lots 19 to 22 of Phelan's Mount Pleasant Addition." (The plat was burned in the court house fire in 1879 and was not re-recorded.)

[3] Probably Columbus contractor Michael Fahey of Boone street, who was superintendent of construction for the Cathedral.

kind. [4] Another consequence was that unless a religious order would assume my rights and liabilities contracted for additional lots and take charge of the whole place, my arrangement with Rt. Rev. Sylvester Rosecrans were ipso facto invalid, since I could not burden Sacred Heart Congregation with useless property. At this juncture Rt. Rev. Sylvester H. Rosecrans died and an administration which defies description was inaugurated and lasted for nearly two years.

"At the death of Rt. Rev. Bishop Sylvester H. Rosecrans my accounts with him were as follows:

"Paid in cash to the Rt. Rev. Bishop for the Orphan Asylum.	
1. For house on Broadway (note of Rev. Anderson)	\$1000.00
2. To Rev. John C. Goldschmidt for Orphan Asylum	1500.00
3. To Rt. Rev. Bishop from Grace Clark	5.00
4. Misses Burns	10.00
5. John Lee	50.00
6. Kate Joyce	5.00
7. To Orphan Asylum Cash expense furnishing Chapel	183.00
8. For unpaid taxes of 1873, 1874, diocese property advertised for sale	417.31
10. For Orphan Asylum	75.00
11. Cathedral steps	41.00
12. Groceries to Louis Zettler for Orphans	612.07
13. Fire Ins. of Cathedral & Orphan Asylum	308.50
Abstracts of title and examination	190.50
15. Commission on loan to	500.00
16. Hardware bill of Bishop's residence	554.06
1. Interest paid for Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans and Orphan Asylum to Reinhard and Co., bankers,	6400.00
2. Northwestern Life Ins. Co.	2026.00
3. To Louis Zettler, for Orphan Asylum	1500.00
4. Theodore Leonard	578.00
5. Cyriac Wolfel	100.00
6. Frank Schrozmgger	15.00
7. Mrs. Catherine Kuhn	10.00
8. Miss Mary Nash	5.00
9. Mrs. Cresantia Zoffinger	<u>68.00</u>

Notes and Interest

1. To Patrick Clahane	\$2393.00
2. To sisters in New Lexington	4039.00

[4] The only transaction recorded at the court house was a mortgage for \$1,200 on lots 12 and 13 of the subdivision, dated 14 August 1875. Bishop Rosecrans had sold the lots to Thomas H. Bowes in return for the mortgage and four notes. It would be interesting to learn what new conditions were placed on the property's use that buyers would have found objectionable. Bishop Rosecrans obtained a new deed to the property from Mr. Phelan's widow, Mary M. Phelan of St. Joseph Co., Ind., and from Philemon B. Ewing, executor of Mr. Phelan's will, "with all the reversions and remainders thereof free and discharged of all restraint or alienation of said premises, or any part thereof." This was dated Jan. 26, 1876. (Deed Record 126/324)

3. Jacob Reinhard	1529.00
4. Mrs. Kate Ford	234.00
5. To Thomas Bowes	75.00
6. To interest to Sisters New Lexington	105.00
17. Note against Neagle, Plasterer,	100.00
18. Cash	100.00
19. Claim of Murphy against Neagle Plasterer	23.00
20. Claim of Witzigmann against the Bishop	25.00
21. Claim of Michael Galvin against the Bishop	40.00
22. Claim of Miss Donavin against the Bishop	350.00
23. Claim of Mr. Nothnagel against the Bishop	1150.00
Total	<u>\$26319.44</u>

Received from the Bishop,		
Loaned from M. Wauker	\$10000.00	
Cash by check	1200.00	
" " "	2500.00	
Loan of Sisters of New Lexington	<u>3327.75</u>	
	\$17027.75	<u>\$17027.75</u>
		\$ 9319.44

[End of Memorandum]

According to a statement made by Father Eis in 1901, Bishop Watterson refused to read this Memorandum. The bishop's refusal to address Father Eis' claims (and his later refusal to settle the disagreement between Fathers Eis and Goldschmidt) seems to have been the root of the difficulties between Father Eis and the diocese.

In October of 1880 Father Eis signed a note for \$10,000 to Louis Zettler, consolidating all of his earlier debts. He paid \$600 per year interest on this note to Mr. Zettler through 1884. Arrangements were then made whereby the diocese would be responsible for the loan and there matters stood for several years; Father Eis paid the interest on this note to Bishop Watterson through the year 1893.

[To be continued]

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS FOR 1986

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Feb. 21 Results of the first stage of the Pastoral Planning Project were published as a working document in the Catholic Times.

Aug. 23 The final consultation of five hundred diocesan representatives was held for the Pastoral Planning Project.

Sept. 23 On a rare tour of the U.S., the Sistine Chapel Choir performed at the Ohio Theater. The concert, underwritten by Robert Morosky of Columbus St. Catherine parish, netted over \$500,000 for the Foundation of the diocese. It was "a great moment of culture and religion, of philanthropy and celebration."

Nov. 23 Robert Morosky of Columbus St. Catherine parish was honored with the papal Order of St. Gregory.

PARISHES

May 27 Bishop Criffin announced that Franciscan Friars are to staff Corpus Christi parish in Columbus.

June 29 Zanesville St. Nicholas church was rededicated.

July 25 St. Pius X parish in Reynoldsburg announced construction of a parish activities center.

Dec. St. Stephen the Martyr parish school in Columbus announced the addition of a kindergarten for the fall of 1987.

INSTITUTIONS

Mar. 25 The closing of Chillicothe Bishop Flaget high school was announced; the causes were declining enrollment and financial problems.

July 25 The Sisters of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament announced their decision to withdraw from Columbus because of the small size of their community.

Nov. 2 The new Mt. Aloysius home for mentally retarded and developmentally disabled men was dedicated.

ORGANIZATIONS

May 1 The St. Vincent de Paul Society took over operation of the Martha Shoppe, 986 N. High street, from the diocese.

PERSONNEL and VOCATIONS

Feb. 5 Rev. Msgr. Robert J. VonKaenel, age 84, a native of Marion, died at Maria-Joseph retirement center in Dayton.

Feb. 8 Sister Josephine Young, S.N.D. de N. age 83, a native of Columbus, died in Grant Hospital.

Mar. 23 Rev. Thomas B. McCarthy, O.P. died, a native of Columbus.

Apr. 7 Died in Colorado, Rev. Msgr. Francis G. Faistl, native of Columbus, a priest of the Diocese of Pueblo.

Apr. 13 Died in Columbus, Rev. Msgr. Aloysius Berendt, age 75, native of Columbus, a priest of the diocese and later of the Diocese of Steubenville.

Apr. 18 Mother Emerentia Snyder of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden died at the age of 84. She had entered the novitiate from Columbus St. Francis parish and was a descendant of the Snyder family of Falls-Gore Township, Hocking County.

May 17 At St. Joseph Cathedral, Bishop Griffin ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese Rev. James Colopy, Rev. Daniel Millison, and Rev. Michael Watson.

May 28 Died in Isingiro, Tanzania, Sister Rose Mary Deering, Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa, age 63, a native of Newark Blessed Sacrament parish.

May 31 Brother Paul E. Rubudue, O.S.B., native of Columbus, was ordained to the priesthood in St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pa.

June 7 At St. Joseph Cathedral, Bishop Griffin ordained to the permanent diaconate Deacon Dwight T. Larcomb Jr. of Marion St. Mary and Deacon George L. Lovensheimer of Chillicothe St. Mary. Craig Eilerman of Columbus St. Mary Magdalene parish, candidate for the priesthood, was also ordained to the diaconate.

June 10 Rev. Roland R. Torer, priest of the diocese and retired U. S. Army chaplain, age 59, died at St. Raphael home in Columbus.

June 23 Rev. Richard J. Connelly, age 77, retired priest of the diocese and native of Newark, died.

June Capucian Brother Francis Voris, a native of Logan, was ordained to the priesthood in Hazel Park, Michigan.

July 17 Sister Mary Tarcisius (Beatrice Welker), Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, age 91, a native of Mt. Vernon, died in Joliet, Ill.

July 19 Rev. Robert H. O'Brien, age 62, native of Columbus and retired priest of the diocese, died.

Aug. 6 Died at St. Mary of the Springs, Sister Francis Xavier Mooney, O.P., a native of Crooksville, age 85.

Sept. 7 Died while on a sabbatical at the University of Notre Dame, Sister Veronica Welch, O.P., age 64, a native of Columbus.

Oct. 3 Rev. Paul O. Smith, pastor of Gahanna St. Matthew, resigned for health reasons.

Oct. 4 Sister Annemary Miller, who was raised in Columbus Corpus Christi parish, professed her final vows as a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur in Cincinnati.

Oct. 29 Died in Columbus, Rev. John J. Soltis, age 71, retired priest of the diocese, founding pastor of Gahanna St. Matthew parish.

Dec. 4 Rev. James J. Marsick, formerly of this diocese, was incardinated into the Diocese of Cleveland.

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

The following are some of the books and pamphlets given to or purchased by the Society during 1986.

The Code of Canon Law in English translation, by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland; London: Collins Liturgical Publications, 1983.

Index to the Code of Canon Law, same; London: Collins, 1984.

The following four items were gifts of Rev. William Patterson:

- The Glories of the Catholic Church...Vols. I-III; New York: Juhn Duffy, 1894.
- A matching set of two books:
 - Orsini, Abbe M., Life of the Blessed Virgin Mary...; New York, Thomas Kelly, 1870.
 - Rutter, Rev. Henry, The Life, Doctrine and Sufferings of Our Blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...; New York: Thomas Kelly, 1870.
- Horne, Charles F., ed., Great Men and Famous Women, Vols I and III only; New York: Selman Hess, 1894.

Hartley, Most Rev. James J., Diocese of Columbus: History of Fifty Years; Columbus, 1918. (purchased)

Centennial, Dominican Fathers, 1885-1985, by St. Patrick Parish, 1985. (Gift of the Dominican Fathers of St. Patrick's Church)

Cotter, Rev. James H., LL.D., Lances Hurlled at the Sun; 1912. (Pastor in Ironton; dedicated to Bishop Hartley)

Gutmen, William R., The Story of "Grand Old Saint Mary's". (Columbus St. Mary parish, unpublished, 1963)

Clarke, Richard H., Our Faith and Its Defenders; New York: Office of Catholic Publications, 1896. (Gift, donor unknown)

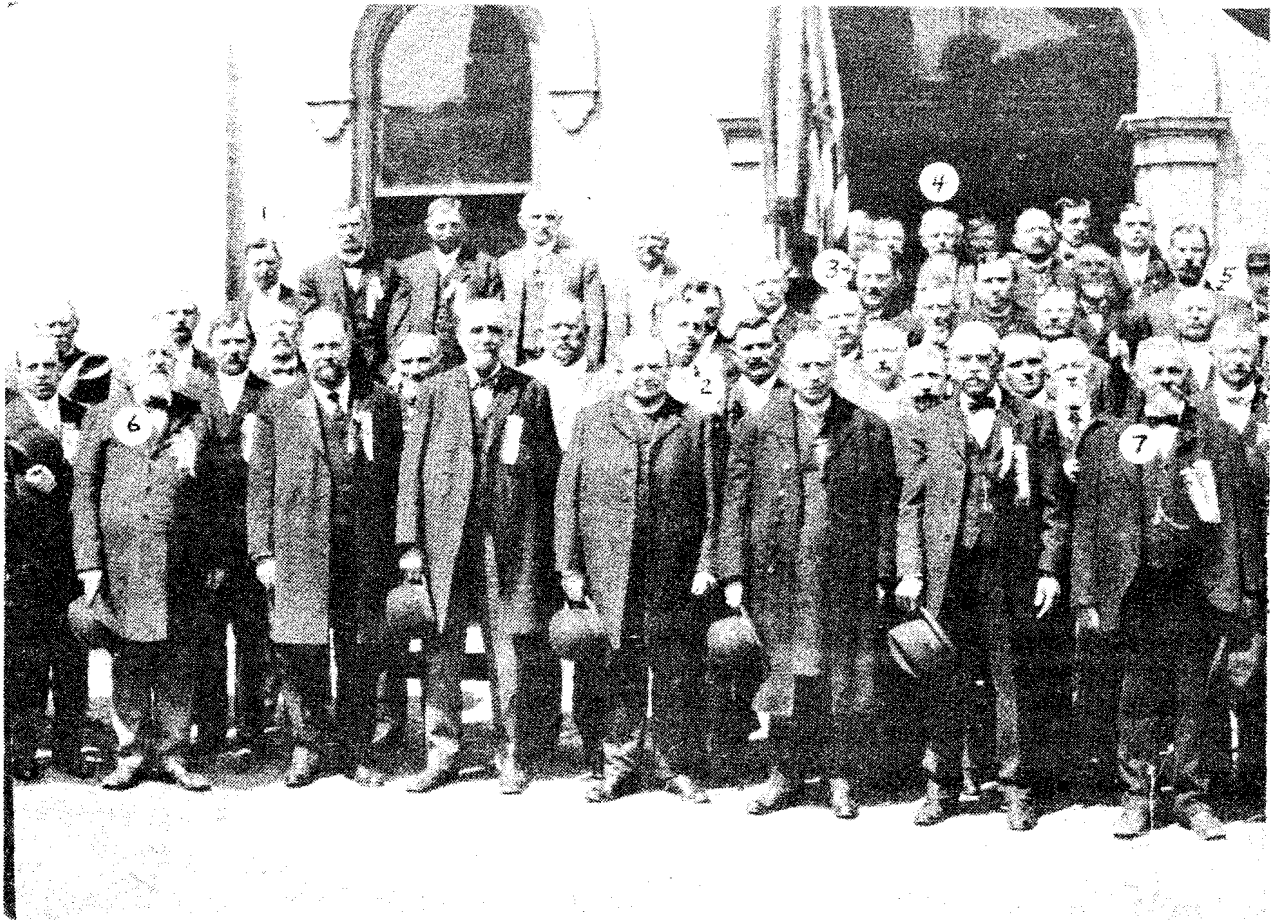
Welsh, Gene and Barbara, St. Joseph Cemetery, Circilville, Ohio; 1983. (Gift of Donald Schlegel)

Grabb, John R., St. Mary's Parish - 150 Years in Chillicothe, Ohio, 1837-1987. (Gift of the author)

Higgins, George Roger, History of the Catholic Community - Pike County & Vicinity; 1986. (Gift of Sr. Mary Humbert, O.P.)

Sapp, Francis, A Brief History of the Sapp Family in the Early Danville Community. (Gift of Hugh Durbin)

Berry, Marion Drust, Nicholas Snider and Related Lines, 1986. (purchased)



This picture, which has been in the possession of the Society for some time, appears to be just about half of a group shot of one of the German Catholic men's societies of Columbus. A small part of the left side has probably been cut off, as shown by the lone word "Ohio" written on the lower-left; a good portion of the right side is also missing. The remaining words identify the site as Columbian Hall, which was located at 587 South High street, between Beck and Willow. Someone has written a few names on the photo in pencil: (1) Eckstein, (2) Koehl, (3) Wendel Marquart, (4) Joe King, (5) Tann, (6) Laufersweiler, and (7) John Maurer. Can anyone give us more information about this group or the photograph ?

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 197 E. Gay Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Donald M. Schlegel, editor

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