

George. Died in 1877, and is buried in SS. Peter and Paul's cemetery.

MICHAEL CLODI—Born August 18, 1841, in Sessenheim (Alsace). Came to America in 1870, locating in Hennepin, near Peoria, Ill. Came to Salina in 1878, then to Milk's Grove, Pilot, section 3, where he bought 80 acres at \$30 per acre. In 1890 he located in Indiana, and in 1914 in Bradley, Ill. Married to Salome Baumgardner. Children: Joseph, Louis, Albert, Michael, Frank, Mary, George, Eddy, Emma, Robert and Cecilia. He served for seven years in the French army. Died in Bradley in 1917, and is buried in Mount Calvary cemetery, Kankakee.

PETER SPIES—Born in the district of Mainz, Germany, in 1833. Came to America in 1866 with his wife and family of six children, two of whom died on the trip and were buried at sea. It took three months from time of sailing to the landing in New York. He settled in Chicago, working in the lumber yards. About 1878 he bought a farm of 80 acres for about \$30 per acre from James Burk, in Pilot township, section 32, where he lived until about 1895, when he moved to Kankakee. After his wife's death in 1901 he returned to Chicago, where he lived for four years and again returned to Kankakee, where he died at the age of 73. In 1856 he married Christina Fuhr. To this union were born eleven children: Peter, Joseph, John, Elizabeth, Mary, Henry, Christina, Lillie and Katie. Peter Spies is buried in St. Rose cemetery, Kankakee.

LEONARD HERBST—Born in the duchy of Baden, near Lahr, (Germany) August 7, 1844. Came to America in 1869, locating at Joliet, Ill., on August 7, 1871, where he was connected with the boot and shoe business. He was married to Emma Deiser in St. John's church by Father Nolte in 1873. Children: Mary, Otto, Louisa, Helena and Susie. In 1876 he located in Kankakee where he was occupied in the shoe business. In 1879 moved to Herscher, where at first he opened a small shoe shop and later the Herscher hotel. There he purchased two building sites; on one he erected a business building, on the other a residence. In 1898 he moved to Kankakee where he was em-

ployed in the state hospital. Mr. Herbst who was known as a gifted musician, died Jan. 4, 1900, and is buried in Mt. Calvary cemetery, Kankakee.

IGNACE FELLER—Born in Wittolsheim, near Colmar, Alsace, Feb. 16, 1851. Crossed the ocean in 1852 with his parents, Blasius and Elisabeth (Seiler) Feller, who located near Naperville, Du Page county, Ill., with their children, Henry, Ignace and Joseph. The father soon after died and in about 1855 the mother married Bernhard Willmeng, who was born in Grusenheim, Alsace. Children: Joseph, Elisabeth, Seraphine, Helena, Francis, Andrew and one deceased. In 1861 the family moved to Lemont, Ill., where the mother died in 1867. Ignace Feller came to Kankakee county in 1872, and worked on farms by the month (Grand Prairie, 1872-1875). On May 2, 1876, he married in Cook county, Mary Peter, daughter of George and Mary (Nau) Peter. For some five years he farmed near Lemont, Ill., and in 1880 moved to Pilot township, where in 1891 he bought 84 acres from F. Reinhart at \$39.30 per acre. Children: Joseph, Elisabeth, Anna, Charles, George, Frank and Olivia. In 1913, after having sold his farm, Mr. Feller located in Benton Harbor, Michigan, where he retired.

EUGENE SCHMIDT—Born in Brunstadt, near Muehlhausen, (Alsace) in 1858, and emigrated in 1887, locating in Essex township and Pilot township where he bought 133 acres in 1894 for \$4700 from the T. Hornberger heirs, in Section 2. Married to Catherine Frueh in Colmar. Children: Eugene, John, Joseph, Leo, Alice and Mary. Crossed the ocean in 18 days. Served in the German army for three years. In his later years he settled in Bonfield.

PIONEER AND SUBSEQUENT SETTLERS
SS. PETER AND PAUL'S PARISH



JOHN HEIMBURGER



MRS. JOHN
HEIMBURGER



PHILIP KARCHER



MRS. PHILIP
KARCHER



CARL RUDER



MATTHIAS CLODI



MRS. MATTHIAS
COLDI
nee Borschneck



FRANCIS STUDER



MRS. FRANCIS
STUDER



FRANK EMLING



MRS. FRANK
EMLING



GEORGE PETER



MR. AND MRS. ADAM FRITZ



MRS. GEO. PE



NICOLAUS WEILER



MRS. NICOLA
WEILER



XAVER SCHNEIDER



MR. AND MRS. FRIDOLIN RUDER



MRS. XAVER
SCHNEIDE



MR. AND MRS. JOHN KNITTEL



KILIAN LOCHNER



MARCHAL RAPPEL



MRS. MARCHAL
RAPPEL



WILLIAM MEYER



MRS. WILLIAM
MEYER



JOHN GRASSER



MRS JOHN GRASSER



LEONARD HERBST



MRS LEONARD HERBST



IGNACE FELLER



MRS. IGNACE FELLER



EUGENE SCHMIDT



MR. AND MRS. PETER SPIES



MRS EUGENE SCHMIDT

IRISH COLONY (WEST)



THOMAS KING



MRS. THOMAS
KING



MICHAEL McGINNIS



MRS. MICHAEL
McGINNIS



MICHAEL RIORDAN



JOHN KING



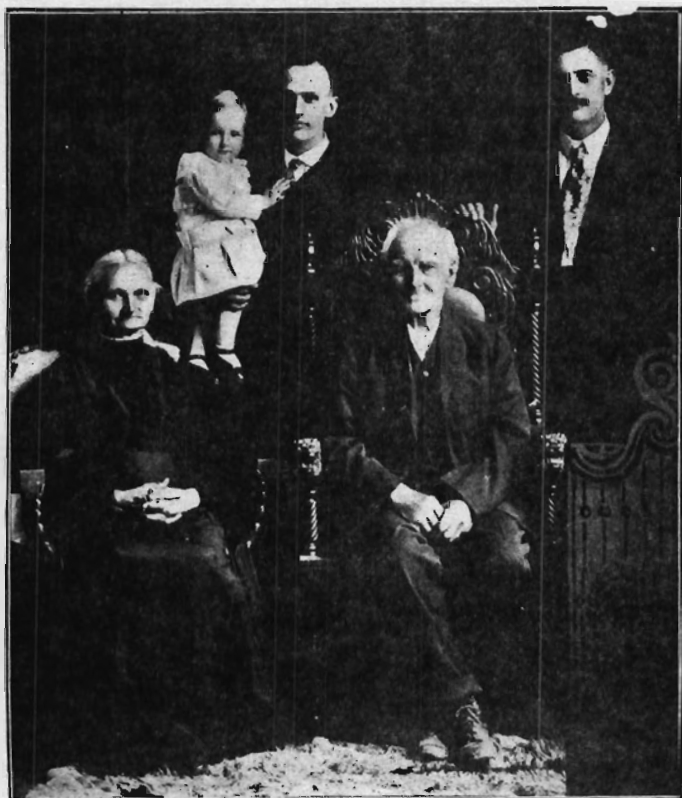
MRS. JOHN KING



PATRICK LONER-
GAN



MRS. PATRICK
LONERGAN



FIVE GENERATIONS

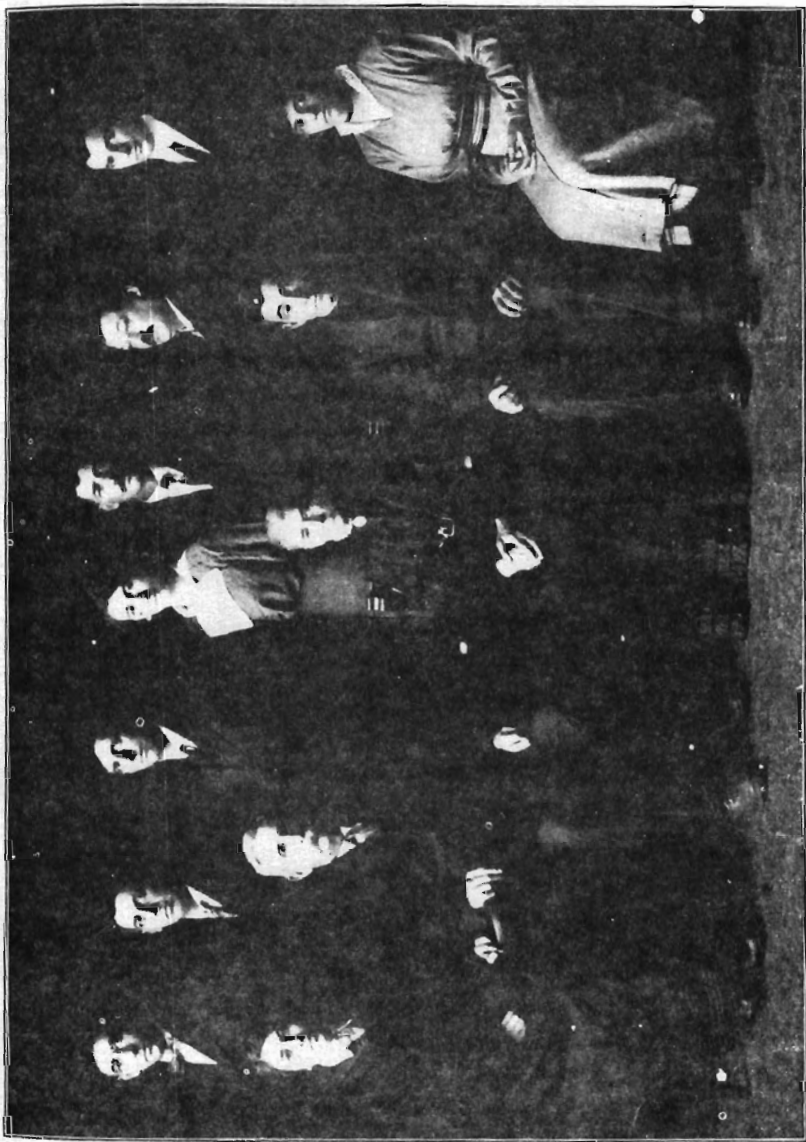
FRANCIS STUDER

MRS. SERAPHINA RUDER

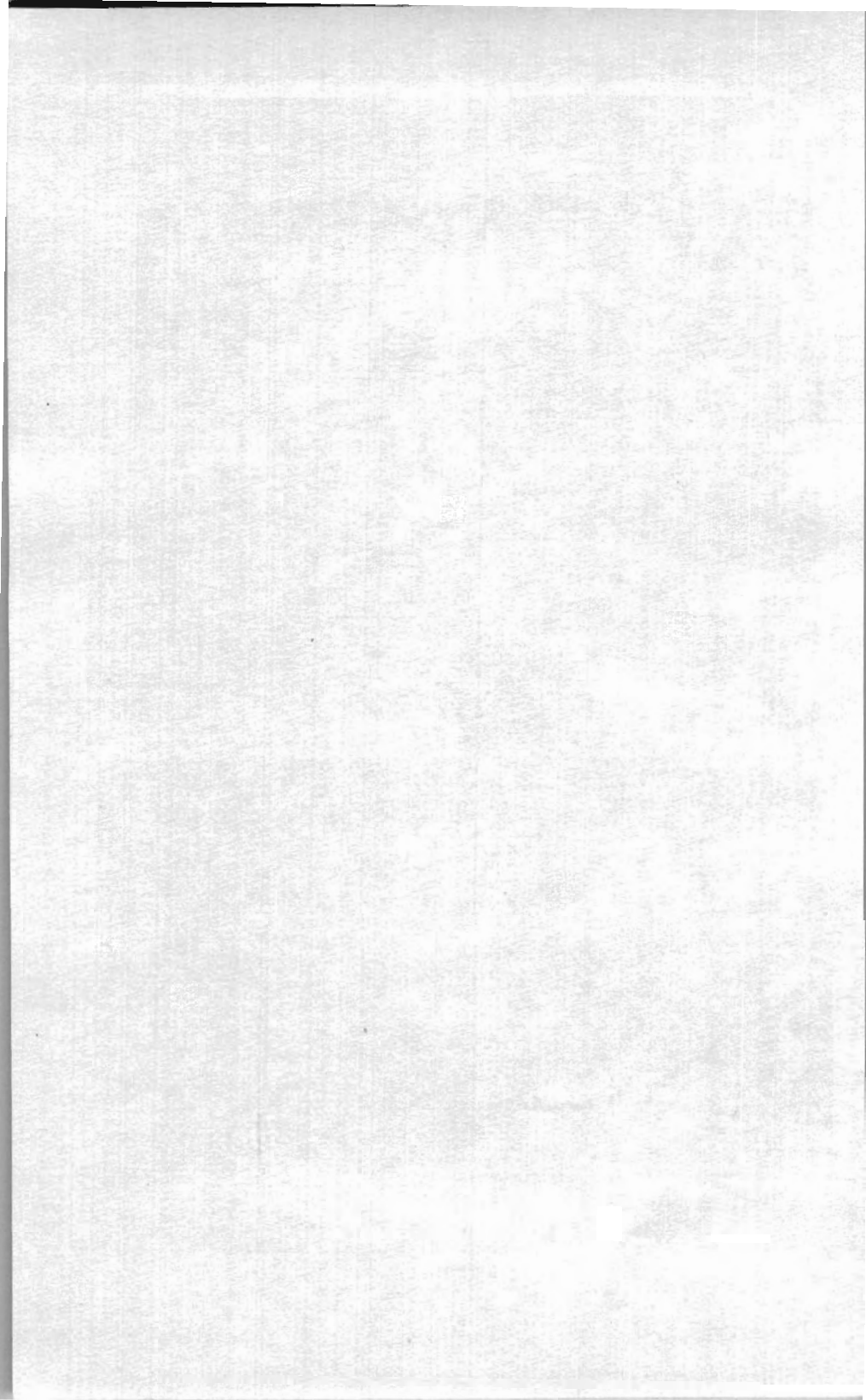
ANDREW RUDER JR.

ANDREW RUDER, SR.

ISIDORE RUDER



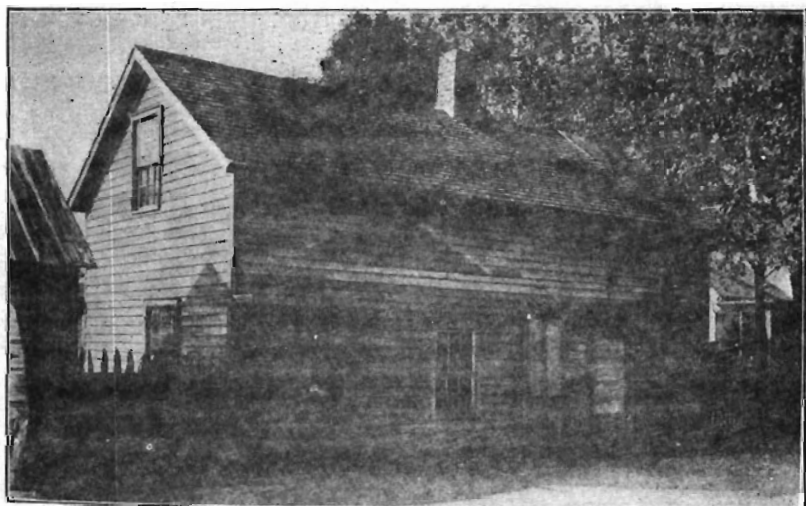
MICHAEL CLODI FAMILY



HOMESTEADS AND DWELLING PLACES OF THE
PIONEER AND SUBSEQUENT SETTLERS.
SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH



TO THIS DWELLING PLACE A SHANTY WAS ATTACHED AND OCCUPIED IN
EARLY DAYS BY JOHN HEIMBURGER. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 9.



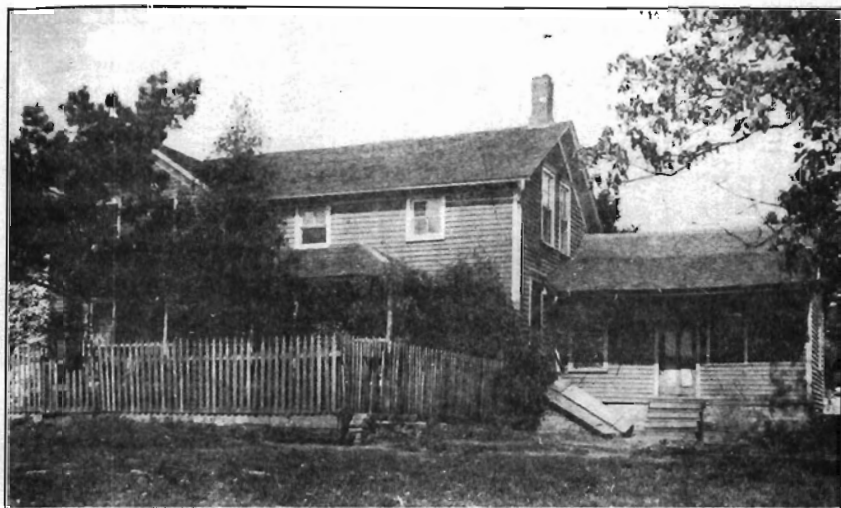
DWELLING PLACE OF PHILIP KARCHER (1863) ROOF SHAPED MARK,
SHOWS WHERE AN ADDITION WAS BUILT IN WHICH MASS WAS CELE-
BRATED ABOUT 1868. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 16



HOMESTEAD OF MATTHIAS CLODI. SALINA TOWNSHIP SECTION 16.



HOMESTEAD OF CARL RUDER. SUBSEQUENTLY OWNED BY FRIDOLIN RUDER. HOUSE BUILT IN 1868. MASS WAS CELEBRATED THEREIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE BLESSING OF THE HOUSE BY REV. CARL ROSENBAUER. ESSEX TOWNSHIP SECTION 36.



HOMESTEAD OF PETER GEIGER, PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 4. ON NOVEMBER 24, 1867 THE FIRST MEETING WAS HELD IN THE SMALL FRONT PART BY THE THEN FEW GERMAN CATHOLIC TO ORGANIZE A CHURCH BUILDING SOCIETY (KIRCHENBAU-VEREIN).



HOMESTEAD OF FRANCIS STUDER (1845)...PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 16.



HOMESTEAD OF FRANK EMILING, ESSEX TOWNSHIP SECTION 25.



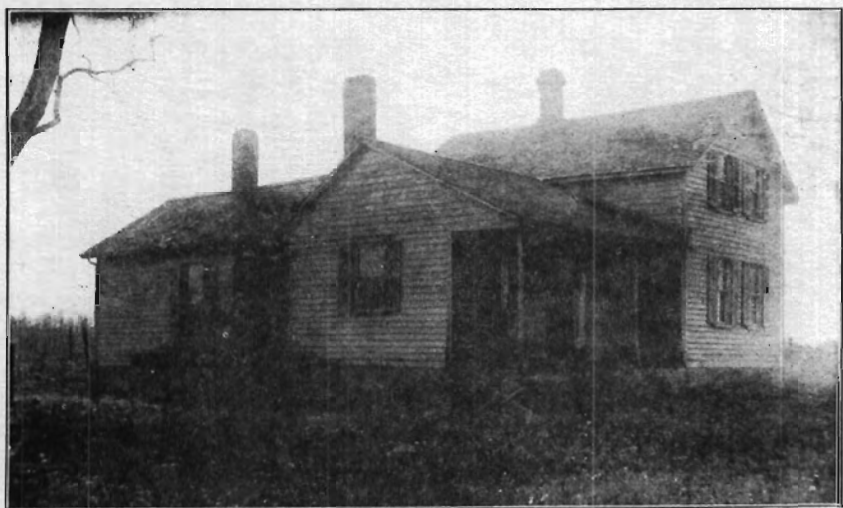
HOMESTEAD OF ADAM FRITZ (THIRD BUILDING), PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 17.



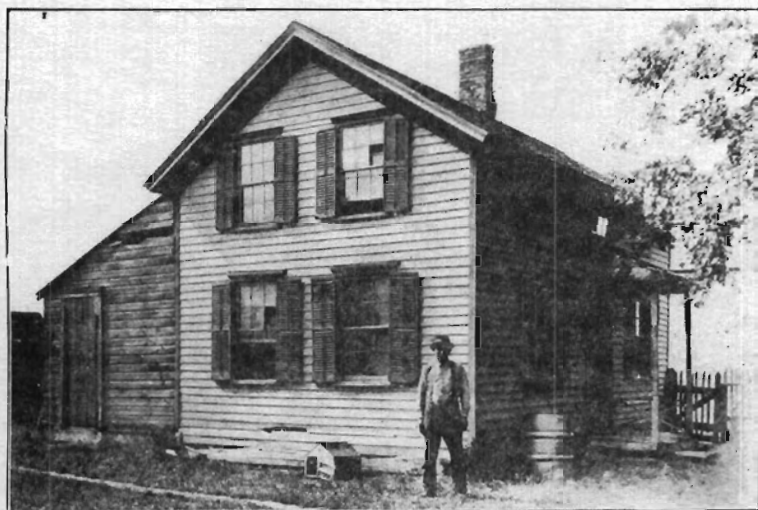
HOMESTEAD OF NICOLAUS WEILER. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 3.



HOMESTEAD OF CHRYSSTOM (CHRYST) KNITTEL WITH THE OWNERS PHOTOGRAPH. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 10.



HOMESTEAD OF PHILIP SAFFER BUILT IN 1872. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 10.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN HEIMBURGER BUILT ABOUT 1870. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 9.



HOMESTEAD OF JOHN KNITTEL SR. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 10. THE KITCHEN (RIGHT 12'x16' ABOUT 7' HIGH) WAS ORIGINALLY A SCHOOL HOUSE BUILT IN THE 1860'S. MOVED FROM SECTION 16 ONE-HALF MILE NORTH OF FRANZ STUDER'S PLACE. THIS SCHOOLHOUSE WAS THE FIRST DWELLING PLACE OF JOHN KNITTEL. MASS WAS CELEBRATED IN SAME. MIDDLE PART (16'x18' ABOUT 8' HIGH) BUILT BY JOHN KNITTEL IN THE 1870'S. MAIN BUILDING (LEFT, 16'x22' ABOUT 12' HIGH) BUILT BY JOHN ARMSTRONG IN THE 1870'S, MOVED FROM HIS PLACE ONE-FOURTH MILE NORTH AND ONE-FOURTH MILE EAST TO THE PRESENT SITE BY JOHN KNITTEL.



HOMESTEAD OF XAVEH SCHNEIDER. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 14.



HOMESTEAD OF KILIAN LOCHNER. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 7.



HOMESTEAD OF JOHN GRASSER. PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 22.



DWELLING PLACE OF MICHAEL CLODI. OCCUPIED FROM 1889-1898.
PILOT TOWNSHIP SECTION 3.



DWELLING PLACE OF PETER SPIES. PILOT TOWNSHIP SEC-
TION 32.



DWELLING PLACE IN 1920 OCCUPIED BY JAMES
GEELAN IN WHICH (MAIN BUILDING) MASS WAS
SAID BY REV. FATHER ZARA. SALINA TOWNSHIP
SECTION 7.

**MEMBERS OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH
FOR A TIME.
IRISH COLONY (WEST)**

THOMAS KING—Born in Chatel Clough, Queens county, Ireland, in 1833; son of James and Sarah (Brennan) King. Came to America in 1852 with his wife and three children and his brother William. Settled in Wilmington, then in Essex township, section 34, in 1855. Bought 80 acres at \$11 per acre from Edwin Richert in 1868. Married to Mary Jane McGinnis. Children: Maria, Katie, Thomas, William, Rose, Margaret, Michael, Theresa, Alice, Ella, James and Lawrence. Died February 18, 1917. Buried in St. Rose cemetery, Wilmington.

WILLIAM KING—Born in Chatel Clough, Queens county, Ireland, in 1825. Came to the states in 1852, the trip lasted twelve weeks. Settled in Wilmington, Ill., and afterwards in Essex township in 1855. Records show 84 acres bought from Alice A. Woodward in 1866 for \$775. Married to Catherine Phalen. Children: Maggie, Joseph, Richard, Edward, Sarah, Maurice, James, Lewis. Lived on his farm up to his death February 18, 1909. Buried in St. Mary's cemetery, Braidwood, Ill.

MICHAEL RIORDAN—Born in Kenmare, Kerry county, Ireland, Aug. 15, 1822. Emigrated to America in 1840. Settled in Portland (Maine) 2 years, Elgin 10 years, Wilmington 11 years. In 1865 he established himself in Essex township. Married to Mary Welch. Children: Cornelius, James, Mary, John and Katie. Bought 80 acres at \$6 per acre and \$7.50 for another 80. Trip on ocean 8 weeks. Died Sept. 8, 1905, buried in Braidwood, Ill.

MICHAEL MCGINNIS—Born in Meath county, Ireland in 1822. Came to America in 1850, settled in New York City. In 1865 he moved to Will county, and in 1866 to Norton township. Bought 80 acres at \$2 per acre. Married to Catherine Smith. Children: Mary, Jane, Hugh, Thomas, William, Michael, Frank, Terrence, George, Cath-

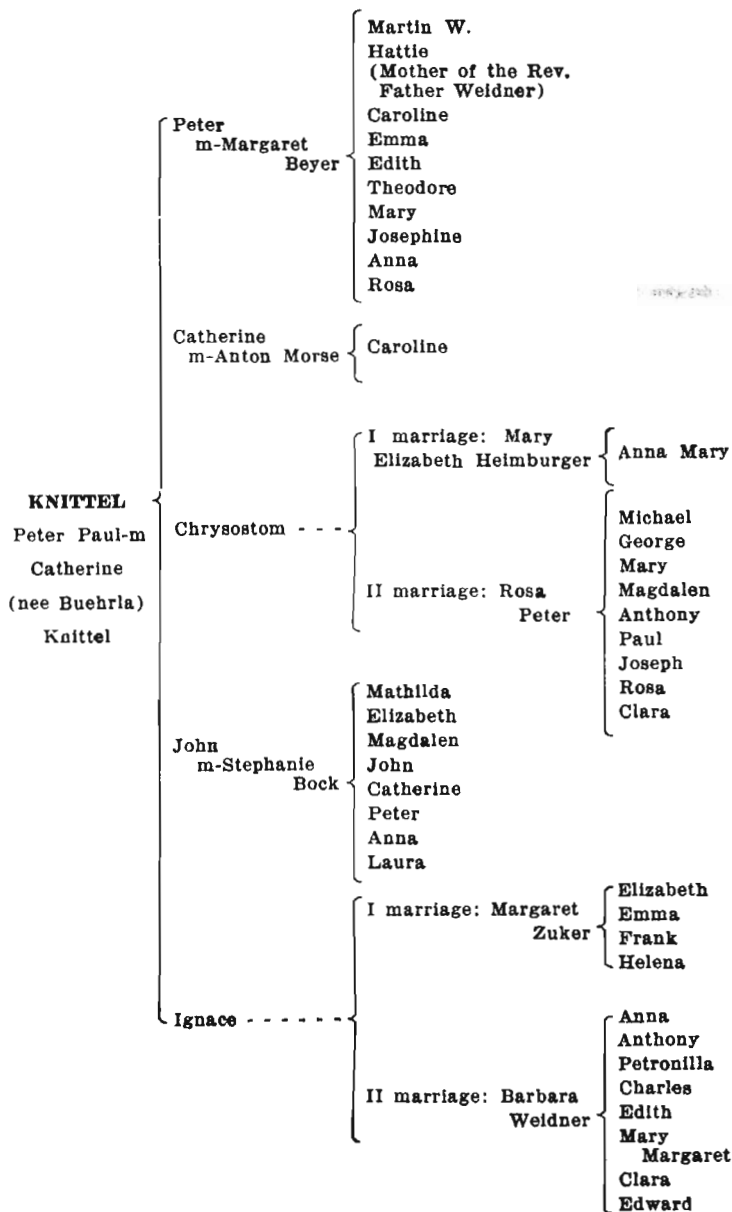
erine and Rose. In 1900 he divided his estate among his children and retired to Reddick, Ill., where he owned 840 acres. In early days mass was often celebrated in his home. Died May 21, 1907, buried in Campus, Ill.

JOHN KING—A brother to Thomas and William King was born in Queens county in 1842. Came to this country in May, 1866 and settled at once in Essex township, Kankakee county. Married to Ellen Quigley. Children: James, Andrew, Sarah, Michael. In 1869 he bought 80 acres of land in section 34 for \$22 per acre and also 80 acres in 1902 from William McGovern for \$8000. His journey on the ocean to this side of the Atlantic took seven days.

PATRICK LONERGAN—Born in Ballyclerahan, Tipperary county, Ireland, in 1849. Came to the United States in 1870 and settled in Wilton Center and Twelve Mile Grove, Ill. Bought 160 acres in 1876 for \$400 from Anthony Schneider, Norton township, section 3. Eighteen days on the ocean. Married to Anna Nolan. Children: James, Andrew, Mary, Annie and Joseph (twins), Loretta, and Robert. Retired to Woodland Park, Bourbonnais, Ill.

BURKE FAMILY—Francis Burke the father was born in Limerick county, Ireland in 1811. He left his native country for America in 1849, crossed the ocean in six weeks in a sailing vessel. Settled at first in Chicago and subsequently in Elgin, Ill. where he died. He was married to Joanna Casey, born in 1807 in Limerick county, Ireland. Children: Patrick C., William, James, John, Maurice Francis, Bishop of St. Joseph, Mo. According to the land record 520 acres were purchased from I. C. R. R. Co. in 1866 for \$3676, Pilot township, section 28, and occupied by James John and William Burke; they were raising mostly stock, secured from Texas. In all there were eight children in the family; two died when small in Ireland, and the only girl died in Chicago and was buried in the old Catholic cemetery. The father died in 1867 and the mother in 1896. Both are buried in Calvary cemetery in the family lot, Chicago.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE KNITTEL FAMILY



Home Country of Some of the Early Settlers.

Not a few of the earlier settlers of SS Peter and Pauls came from Alsace, a principality of France. The name Alsace (Elsass) is derived from the ancient Alsatia, composed of "Ill," a river, and the German word "sitzen," settle, that is the settlers on the river Ill or according to others, from Elisazun, i. e. those who settled in a foreign country. Alsace is bounded in the east by the river Rhine on the west by the Vosges mountains on the south by Switzerland and on the north by the Rhine Palatinate (Rhenish Bavaria). Between the Vosges and the Rhine extends a beautiful rich plain. There are many small rivers, tributaries of the majestic Rhine, which like the St. Lawrence in Canada played such a great role in the formation of the history of Alsace. Some of the highest elevations of the Vosges mountains are the Donon, Climent, Ungerberg, the Honneck and the Ballon of Guebweiler (nearly 4700 feet high). We find also a few small lakes but strangely, all on the summit of the Vosges mountains; they furnish water for irrigation and water-power projects. The climate of Alsace is mild and healthy and the different seasons come in gradually, there are no sudden weather changes. Average summer temperature 61 degrees F., winter 39 degrees F. Animals and plants are of a great variety. Iron is mined principally in Lorraine, the sister country of Alsace, but coal is found in the Vosges and also salt, to a small extent.

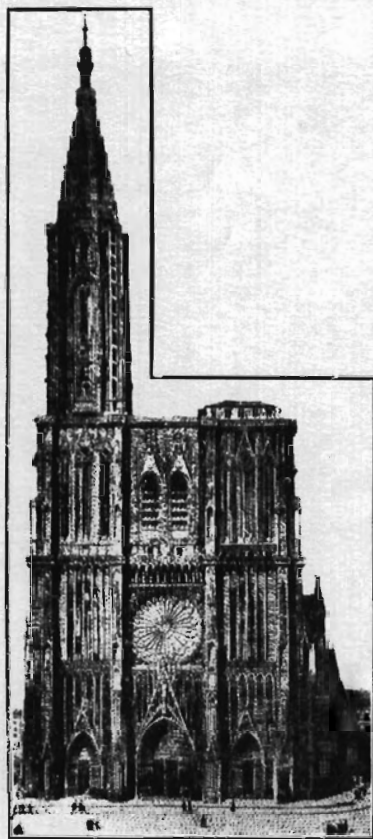
History—Alsace was originally a part of Roman Gaul and inhabited by Celtic tribes, who had immigrated from the east, then overrun by German nations during the fourth and fifth centuries and ultimately brought under the dominion of the Franks. In the tenth century the original Celtic element was supplanted by the German invaders.

ALSACE-LORRAINE



LORRAINE

ALSACE



CATHEDRAL OF STRASBOURG
ALSACE

By the treaty of peace of Muenster 1648 the greater part of Alsace belonged to France. King Lewis XIV of France induced families from neighboring countries to settle in Alsace, which had been devastated by wars and pestilence. For six years no taxes were to be levied and the timber, lumber for the rebuilding of homes was furnished free of charge by the government. Hence many strangers immigrated to Alsace from France, Lorraine, Germany, Switzerland and Italy and this accounts for the fact that we find so many names of different nationalities among the Alsations and some entire French-patois speaking villages.

In 1871 Alsace was made a German principality and since 1918 it again belongs to France. Attempts were often made to assimilate the German and French element but without success until the French Revolution, 1792, which ended the age of feudalism and amalgamated the two different elements by the common ideal of democracy. Yet the French element soon seemed to predominate the different classes and after the Franco-Prussian War in 1871 the German government tried in vain to win back the majority of the people to German influences. There was a great number of French "irreconcilables." More than 150,000 expressed their adhesion to France and of this number nearly 50,000 left their native country.

The Alsatian is a perfect type of the Celtic, as a rule well built, industrious and thrifty, possessed by a sense of humor and joviality, again of an earnest disposition. He is not a friend of luxury or vanity but rather of simplicity and frugality. Truth, honesty, open mindness, sincerity are some of his characteristics. He is also possessed of a certain love (homesickness) for the past without being sentimental, he is a great lover of music, song and legend.

"Tell me what you sing and I will tell you what is in your heart"—is an old proverb of his. To an observer he may appear of a somewhat rude and blunt disposition but on closer acquaintance he will soon discover under his rough exterior, lovely and sympathetic sentiments. The real Alsatian is not profuse in his compliments, his remarks and answers are always direct and just. In some localities

the customs, homes and costumes are somewhat peculiar and quaint but the last have considerably changed by the influence of the more modern style of apparel.

The population numbers about 1,200,000. The language of the Alsatian is a specific alemannic (German) dialect or patois, mixed here and there with some French words but the pure French predominates in the higher classes.

The soil is in some parts very rich. The land is divided in small holdings. Wheat, rye, barley, oats, potatoes, sugarbeets, hay, hops and tobacco are the chief products, besides wine growing on the lovely hillsides of the Vosges. About the house and within doors a little garden patch is noticeable. Among the manufacturing industries cotton weaving is considered the most important especially in the town of Mulhouse, Upper Alsace. The production of woollens, yarns, linen and textiles is very extensively developed, the last is yet in some sections a house industry.

The country if Alsace is divided into Lower with Strasbourg and Upper Alsace with Colmar as the main cities. In fact Alsace has scarcely ever been under its own government but has always rather been exploited, it has always been the battlefield of recent and past wars. And because of this many thousands have emigrated to other countries in search of more favorable living conditions. Truly Alsace may be called the Martyrland of Europe.

Religiously speaking about two thirds of the population are Catholics, the balance either are adherents to the Protestant or Jewish faith. The visitor at Strasbourg, the capital of Alsace, stands spellbound before its magnificent cathedral whose foundations were laid in the year 1015. The edifice is a witness to the architectural achievements of the Middle Ages. Inside is the world famous clock. On the crest of one of the mountain elevations in Lower Alsace is the shrine of St. Ottilia, Patron Saint of the Alsatians and the favorite shrine of their pilgrimages.

"No matter where you go there is only one Alsace here below." *Quel beau jardin!* What a beautiful garden! exclaimed the French King Louis XIV when he visited Alsace

for the first time and this appreciation is fully justified. Beautiful mountains, fertile valleys, rich plains, old ruins on the mountain tops dating back to the time of Julius Caesar and the Feudal Ages. Such is the picturesque panorama of Alsace. Yet many of the Alsatians left their dear country on account of political disturbances as stated above, and also on account of over population especially in the mountain districts. Those who chose to emigrate to the United States have to a large measure benefitted their new country of adoption by their industry and undaunted efforts to succeed.

Farm Life in Days of Bettered Conditions.

Farm life in earlier days was connected with greater hardships than now-a-days, but it was not altogether unpleasant. Many an old man will in his reflective mood go back to those days and recall the happy years on the farm and if true to himself will thank God for having been brought up and raised on the farm. He often will think of that happy carefree life, even at the risk and cost of being termed a sentimental foggy and dreamer, a boaster of old fashioned days, he will readily let himself be carried away from smoke, dust, and noise to green fields and clear skies, away from that which is so artificial, he will listen to the songs of the birds, the humming of the bees, he will again see in his vision that home with a horizon all the way around, with no snorting automobile on the road, no noisy flying ship in the air.

Truly the advantages of country life are incomparable. The farmer lives a king's life, he lives with God's nature. In the morning the roosters call up to sun, the birds sing praises to God for the new day. The skies are rich at dawn and the sunsets glowing with unspeakable glory. The children play in healthful mud, paddle in clean water, they live with flowers and butterflies, they experience the thrill of going barefoot, of being out in the rain without rubber coat and buckskin overshoes. They hear the lisp-ing and clapping of the breezes, the whirl through the air. In the evening at sunset the sound of cowbells is heard in the distance. The horses peacefully eat their oats, men tramp about doing their work. From the kitchen comes the appetizing smell of the supper in preparation and from the woodshed the sound of an axe is heard busily working so as to supply the stove on which supper is cooked. When the low sighing wind has put all flowers to sleep, the fire-

flies trim their lamps and then it is evening on the farm when all things enjoy a healthful rest.

In early days as now yet, Autumn is the season of the glorious fruitage of Spring planting and Summer time, the harvest of the year. The so-called Indian Summer when it comes is a season in itself, dreamy, hazy, the weather is soft and colorful, just a few wonderful, golden days in Autumn. The trees and shrubberies are colorful in different shades and tints, a most beautiful art gallery. The gossamers are flying in the air. Gazing over the fields there is a indistinct purple seam in the distant horizon. But now some serious work is to be done, corn husking which means many a lame back and worn fingers before the last load is drawn to the crib, it means to rise early, to scoop the last load by lantern light. The regular bang can be heard for more than a mile around. On the side of the wagon box the tar, to paint the finger cuds may be noticed. Now the time has come when the garden products are taken in and stored away in the cellar, which is banked and made secure against freezing. The red-winged black-birds are chattering away, organizing their flight for the south and already we notice the long harrow-shaped files of wild geese. A few more days and the hired man reports some ice in the horse trough and the thoughts of the long winter are haunting the farmers mind.

Even the Winter season in those better days was not without its charm, was not so dreary, gloomy as we in our more modern times may only too readily imagine. Who has not read about sirup (sorghum, molasses) making from sugar maple and sugar cane. The scene is familiar. The maple tree with the wooden spile near the ground which conducts the sap into the bucket. The sap is collected each day and boiled as soon as possible in the kettle over a fire in the open air on snow and frozen ground (February and March). The boilings show a dark colored sugar with an aromatic taste.

About Thanksgiving all the corn is in the crib and the few lonely turkeys who have been kept over for the next year come to conclusion that the roost on the trees must

soon be exchanged for a safer shelter under the sheds. Everything perishable is gathered in, covered up, all the cracks in the house battened up and the wood piled high. The bees have securely stored away their sweet treasure in the hives in the rear along the orchard fence and so has the squirrel stored away its granaries in the hollow of an old tree, the birds have retired to their winter quarters. Old Winter may now celebrate his coming with a three day's blizzard, which will pile up the snow high above the fence boards. All nature lies dormant under the cover of the white, immaculate snow, truly a time of relaxation for the busy farmer, whom we find now sitting near a blazing fire, leisurely enjoying the smoking of his pipe. Small wonder that he does not worry, the cellar shows bursting bins of potatoes, receptacles of cider, barrels of apples, a good supply of preserves, fruits of all kinds, sacks of walnuts, butternuts, hickory nuts, hazelnuts, and last but not least, well cured hams, endless links of spicy home made sausages. With such a supply he can well afford to dispence himself with the grocery store and butcher shop "around the corner."

Now is the time for hunting, especially when tracking is good after a fresh snowfall, trapping, skating, snow ball battles. Whenever the weather permits a moonlight ride over the crisp silvery snow track to the neighbor takes place. The horses are in fine mood, jingling with strings of bells, puffing out like a steam engine the warm breath in the frosty air, swiftly pulling a bouncing bobsled loaded with merry occupants sitting on a thick layer of straw. On Sunday the whole family will come to church in this same vehicle, which needs no shockabsorbers.

Not far distant from the farm is the little school house, one room concern, designated by number or named after the owner of the nearest farm, who ordinarily is one of the directors for many years. School mams, or men teachers have charge of the school. To study is the least of the scholars troubles and often the ruler and hickory stick has to wake up the indifferent and lazy pupil. Good old school days, happy days gone by.

From time to time a country dance takes place. Naturally the fiddler in those days is the prominent feature of the affair and how he can fiddle! In all his life he never has taken a lesson, it is natural to him and he is the wonder of the whole neighborhood, an extraordinary musical talent. He takes the violin to his chin, his ear close down to the sounding board and after a few preliminary scratches and a serious dreamy look to the crowd he begins to set the whole assembly into motion. The caller with his "salute your partner," "all promenade," etc., must not be overlooked here, because he too is of vital importance. These gatherings took place without a great outlay or difficulty as there was no danger of spoiling, injuring a costly carpet or expensive furniture. In those days an open democratic, frank, sincere sociability was valued more than money, when one guest was considered as welcome as the other, surely no need of "shows" and "movies."

The evenings are spent in the family. Over the center of the dining table a brass lamp with crystal pendants. In the stove a blazing fire, crackling away its fragrant, clean and living warmth. Mother is knitting, father reads, the children are preparing their school lesson for tomorrow, a thing which is quickly disposed of. Now the roasting of popcorn takes place, the cracking of nuts on the flat iron for a layer cake, or the time is spent in recreative and amusing games. At bed time after the night-prayer the smaller children are wrapped in a blanket and carried up stairs in a room with cold natural air. Through a protruding nail from the outside the frost would penetrate with a noise of a gunshot, but a healthy sleep was enjoyed just the same, and in the morning it will not take much to make the banister for a warm fire at the breakfast call.

Religious Activities.

Religion is an essential need to the human soul. The craving for truth is as strong as the bodily cravings for food. There is a natural instinct anterior to all reasoning, which is satisfied only by acts of religious worship. Man is constrained by the force of evidence to recognize the existence of a Supreme Being—invisible Power. Man is inquisitive by his very nature, he must know the purpose of his existence, the object of his end, hence the necessity of religious instruction and religious training.

First Services.

Our first settlers looked for a place of worship, but on account of their poor limited circumstances could not think of erecting a house of worship. Missionary priests came to tend to their spiritual wants. The holy sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated in private homes or even in a school house, once a month in the following homes: Peter Geiger's Place, Philip Karcher's, Fridelin Ruder's, Ed. Daylor's. In order to make their Easter Duty and attend church some also went to Cabery, in those days called Paradeis, named after a settler from Luxembourg (1867). From miles the scattered settlers gathered and joy filled their hearts, when they could have an opportunity to receive the sacraments, to be strengthened by the spiritual comfort which religion could give. No distance was too great to walk, no obstacle too difficult, as they realized what their religion was to them.

In either 1862 or 1863 the first Church about 20'x30' was erected on the site of the present old Lehigh near the northwest corner of the intersection of the New York Central R. R. and the road running north and south. Worshipers of different nationalities, French, German, Irish, flocked to that humble place of religious gathering. The first

marriage in this Church took place between Fridolin Ruder and Seraphina Studer by Father Cote of Kankakee, in April 1864. Service was held every first Monday in the month.

In 1872 or 1873 the Church was moved $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south on Timothy Fortin's place, an addition of the same size was built to it, also a sacristy (12'x16') and a parsonage was erected. This was done under the supervision of Father Paradis of Kankakee.

First Church Built by the Members of SS. Peter and Paul's.

On November 24, 1867 the German Catholics held a meeting at Peter Geiger's Place for the purpose of organizing a Church Building Society (Kirchenbauverein). Officers: President, Carl Ruder, Vice President, Matthias Clodi, Secretary, Philip Karcher, Treasurer, Peter Geiger. Committee on Financial Reports: Fridolin Ruder and Ed. Finger. Society dues 50c. At this meeting it was decided to apply to the Prior of the Benedictin Convent in Chicago for a priest who would say Mass on the 13th or 14th of the following January at Philip Karcher's Place. The entrance and monthly fees collected amounted to \$19.00.

On January 8th, 1868 the following officers were elected: George Schosser, Erhard Ruder, Wendelin Ruder, Maurice Studer, Martin Geiger, Michael Clodi, Vincent Boner, Chryst Knittel.

On April 19th of the same year a Sunday School was organized. The first catechetical instruction was given in the home of Peter Geiger, who with George Peter, Frank Studer, Nicolaus Weiler were elected as first teachers. On June 21st a Building Committee was elected with the following officers: Philip Karcher, Fridolin Ruder and Frank Studer. The first outlay for Mass requisitess was \$55.25. At a meeting of Sept. 20th of the same year it was decided to erect a Church 24'x46'x14' and on January 3, 1869 a motion was carried (17 votes against 2) that a Church be built on Peter Geiger's land. The building was erected by John and Lambert Paulissen of Kankakee and dedicated to the Apostles Peter and Paul October 4, 1869. The

Church was blessed by Father Kuchenbuch of Chebanse to the great rejoicing of the small congregation. In this humble house of worship the members moved by deep faith and religious sentiments, gathered on "priestless" Sundays, whenever a missionary priest could not come, sometimes for one, two or three months to recite the rosary and other prayers, because they loved their God and their Church, built at the cost of so many sacrifices. Sometimes they attended divine service in the old Church of the French-Irish congregation at Lehigh and also when it had been moved two and one half miles south.

They well remembered the words written in St. Matthew 21, 13:

"My house shall be called a house of prayer."

Subscription for the Church Building Fund 1868.

	First Subscription	Second Subscription
Carl Ruder	\$150.00	
Matthias Clodi	55.00	45.00
Philip Karcher	75.00	70.00
Peter Geiger	50.00	60.00
George Peter	50.00	30.00
Franz Emling	50.00	40.00
Michael Frueh	50.00	10.00
John Heimbürger	50.00	25.00
Ed. Finger	25.00	25.00
Chryst Knittel	50.00	10.00
Frank Studer	50.00	50.00
Michael Clodi	30.00	25.00
Joseph Clodi	15.00	15.00
Ignace Knittel	50.00	
Paul Meyer	50.00	25.00
Nicolaus Weiler	50.00	60.00
Philip Saffer	50.00	35.00
John Pratt	50.00	
Adam Fritz	50.00	50.00
Moritz Studer		20.00
Henry Saffer		10.00
John Knittel		25.00
Martin Geiger		16.00

Missionaries. — Pioneer and Subsequent Pastors.

Before the German colony had segregated itself from the French-Irish congregation, missionary priests, mostly from Chicago, came to attend to the spiritual wants of the small parish, namely: Rev. Father Hahn, Rev. Carl and Michael Rosenbauer, Redemptorist priests of St. Michael's Church, Chicago, and Rev. William Kuchenbuch. They also attended another station, Cabery, then called Paradeis. After SS. Peter and Paul's Church was built in 1869, Father Kuchenbuch came from Chebanse to say mass once a month before that mass was said and catechism taught in Peter Geiger's home. Mass was also said for the people on Monday mornings before returning to Chebanse, when again the whole congregation attended. He had charge of this Out-Mission from about 1869, until 1873, when Rev. Bruno Riess, a Benedictine priest from St. Joseph's Church, Chicago appears on the scene as a missionary. He came every three weeks from Kankakee, where he made his stopping place, with the Pastor of the French-German-Irish congregation, or in private homes until St. Mary's Church, or Immaculate Conception B. V. M. (organized, April 2, 1865, canonically erected 1873 under the Rt. Rev. Thomas Foley Bishop of Chicago) was built, when he made the sacristy the home of his short stay. With the then poor but faithful people, the priest meant everything, he was the king of their hearts, and they always deeply regretted his change, whereas in congregations where wealth and luxury have weakened the faith, the priest is looked upon as a "salaried officer," and we often hear the cold, short remark "Father-so-and-so left and Father- so-and-so took his place."

Residing Pastors.

In Sept. 1874 Rev. Gelasius Kuba was appointed as first resident pastor of St. Mary's Church, Kankakee. He was of Bohemian extraction, but could also master besides his mother tongue the English and German language. Every third Sunday in the month he attended the small congregation of SS. Peter and Paul's. During his pastorate a very successful mission was given by the well known Jesuit missionary Father Weninger. It was well attended by the small out-mission of Pilot, some walked the distance of ten and more miles. Father Kuba died on his way to Chicago in August 1876.

Rev. Francis Allgayer took charge of St. Mary's, Kankakee in November, 1876. Some misunderstanding had occurred between him and his flock and he left the Parish in October 1877. Services were held in the out-mission once a month.

Rev. Clemens Duerr was appointed as new Pastor October 1877. In 1880 he erected a sanctuary 16'x18' with two stained glass windows in the out-mission Church. The work was done by John Sr., Theodore and John Jr. Paulissen at a cost of about \$400.00. Father Duerr was, after a rather stormy pastorate, appointed Pastor of Spring Grove, Illinois where he retired later on leading an idyllic life after having experienced during so many years the falsity and vanity of the world. Father Duerr was born November 22, 1837 at Fulgenstadt, Diocese of Rottenburg, Germany and ordained a priest in 1866. Came to this country in 1869. Died in 1920 and was buried in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Rev. J. H. Kruell succeeded Father Duerr in August 1882, but remained only until

REV. J. H. KRUELL 1882 December of the same year leaving a rather dark page in the history of the Immaculate Conception Parish and the out-mission. According to all appearances he was not a canonically appointed pastor. He was born in Hannover, Germany.

Rev. H. Bangen ministered to the out-mission only for a short period of six months, January

REV. H. BANGEN 1883 to July 15, 1883, when he was appointed Pastor of the Annunciation Church, Busch (Big Woods), near Aurora. He was born February 22, 1849 at Warendorf, Westphalia, Germany, studied at Hattermand, Muenster and was ordained May 12, 1878 at Osnabrueck, Hannover, Germany. His first appointment was as assistant at St. Boniface Church, Chicago, October 1878 to 1883 when he was appointed pastor of St. Mary's Kankakee. He served in the Franco-Prussian War 1870. Died at the Alexian Hospital, Chicago, May 27, 1921.

Rev. H. Mehring now appears on the scene as Pastor of the out-mission, coming from St.

REV. H. MEHRING 1883-1884 Louis Diocese. He was very popular and by his inspiring and forceful sermons and other effective pastoral work put new life and vigor into the congregation. Under his supervision a priesthouse and school house 18'x22' was erected in 1884. The parsonage was never occupied except by some teachers with their parents and relatives. In 1907 it was sold. Father Mehring was appointed pastor of St. John's Church, Johnsbury, Illinois, December 1884. In 1905 he resigned and he died June 25, 1911 in the St. Scholastica Academy, Rogers Park, Illinois, where he had been chaplain. He was born at Rammeldingen (Luxemburg), September 2, 1832. Ordained August 24, 1858, in Trier, Rhenish Prussia.

A most worthy and zealous priest, Father Halbmaier took charge of SS. Peter and Paul's in 1884. In 1887 he was appointed pastor at Menominee, Illinois and later at St. Benedict's, Blue Island. Upon his request he was relieved from parish duties and appointed chaplain to the Angel Guardian Orphanage in Chicago. Father Halbmaier is a native of Illinois born at Binghamton, February 28, 1855 and ordained in Chicago June 28, 1878.

Father Beineke was a very conscientious pastor and well liked. During his absence of a few months in Germany, his native land, he was replaced by an ex-Franciscan, the Rev. Jos. Rhode, who after the return of the Pastor, was appointed as Pastor at Elgin, where he is buried in the Church he built. Father Beineke was in later years afflicted with shortsightedness and hard hearing. Owing to these ailments he met with an accident being struck by a railroad engine, which caused his death. He was born in Germany and ordained in Paderborn, same country, about 1860.

In July 1891 Rev. Albert Evers, up to that time Assistant Priest at St. Nicholas', Aurora, Ill. was appointed as pastor. He was known for his untiring zeal. He attended the out-mission every third Sunday in the month and bought a reed organ and bell, donated by Adam Fritz. The inscription of the bell reads as follows: FEHY STUCKSTEDE B. F. Co. St. Louis, Mo. 1891. S. Maria, Zum Andenken an Maria Fritz. In 1895 Father Evers was transferred to St. Boniface, Chicago where he built a magnificent parochial school, a beautiful Church (Roman style) and a commodious parsonage. In 1916 he resigned on account of impaired health and after one year of rest he was appointed Pastor of S. Peter's at Niles Center, Ill. His health failing him entirely he went to Denver, Colorado, where he died October 14, 1920. His