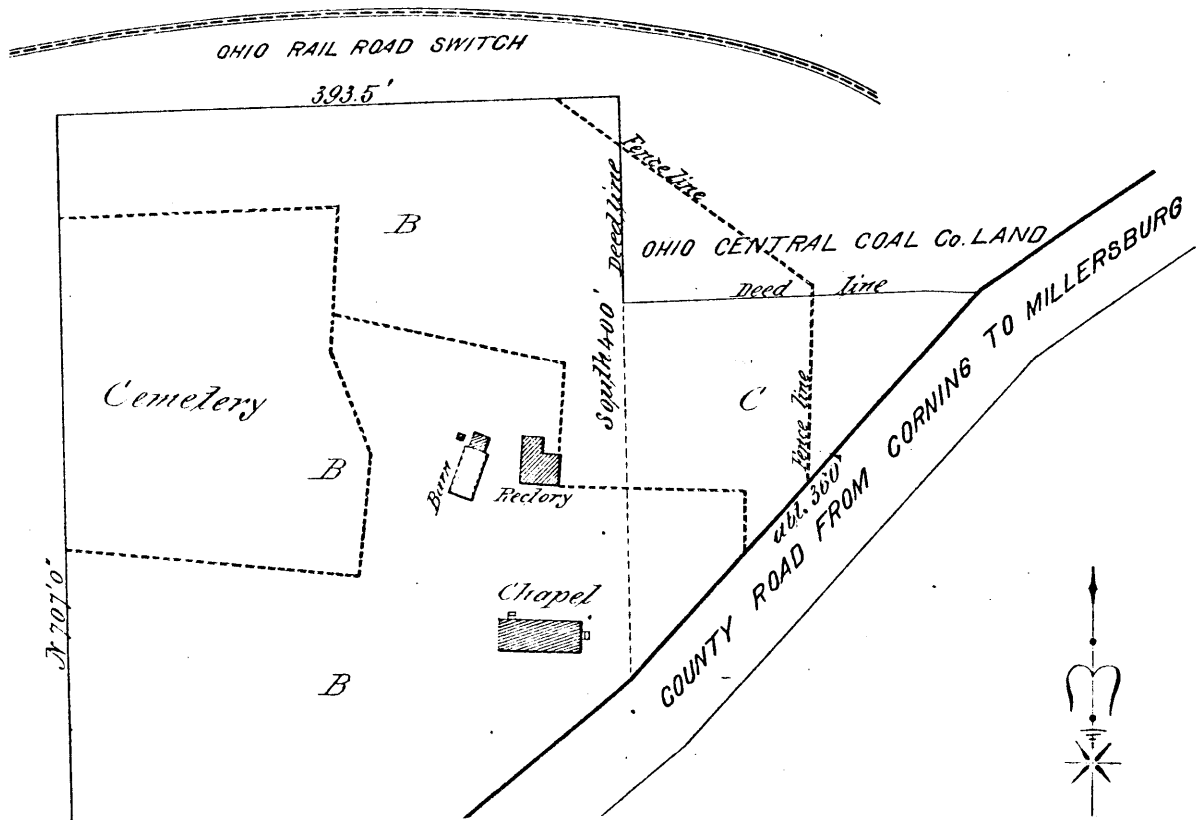




ST. MALACHY'S, FERRARA (CORNING)
PERRY COUNTY, OHIO



On the county road from the present Corning to Millerstown (Millersburg today), just outside of Ferrara (now part of Corning), was located St. Malachy's Chapel, the second church in Monroe township, Perry county, Ohio, and the first for the Corning area. The location is west of the present Corning, on the north side of the road. The cemetery, well cared for, is all that remains. The first church in the township was St. Francis of Assisi, Chapel Hill, a little over two miles northeast of Corning. The above sketch is from a large Plat Book in the Diocesan Archives.

ST. MALACHY'S, CORNING

1881 - 1886

It was one hundred years ago that beginnings were made for a Catholic parish near Ferrara (now part of Corning), Monroe township, Perry county, Ohio. St. Malachy (d.1148), famed archbishop of Armagh, was chosen as the parish's patron saint, probably at the suggestion of its first pastor, Rev. Bernard M. O'Boylan, a native of Ireland.

The Population growth in the Corning area was rapid. Coal mines had been opened as early as 1832. But coal was sold mostly only to the farmers who came to get it. With the arrival of the railroads in 1879 and 1880 the area began to thrive. The Irish came in from nearby Chapel Hill; and apparently a number of Hungarian miners were newcomers. There was also a settlement of black people at Rendville just north of Corning who worked in the mines there. Among the growing population was a number of Catholics.

Accordingly, in 1881, at the request of Thomas Corcoran and John Monahan, Bishop Watterson visited the area (1). The necessity of a parish was evident. Catholics thereabouts had been going to St. Francis, Chapel Hill (earlier known as Thompsonville). The pastor there had been visiting the Catholics around Ferrara which was layed out in lots a few years before Corning. Bishop Hartley states in his history of the diocese that the parish was established in 1882. However, Father O'Boylan, the first pastor, made the first census report of the parish and dated it "from September 1, 1881, to September 1, 1882." And his first financial report covered the period of Jan. 1, 1882, to July 1, 1882. Apparently he was there functioning as pastor by the first of 1882.

It is noteworthy that Father O'Boylan wrote on his first census report concerning the number of baptisms, deaths, and first Communions, that the totals were for two years, from Sept. 1, 1880, to Sept. 1, 1882.

Father Bernard M. O'Boylan was born in Ireland and began his studies there. He continued them in Montreal, New York, and at St. John's University, Minnesota. He was ordained by Bishop Rosecrans Jan. 30, 1875, and served for a while as assistant at St. Patrick's, Columbus. He was then sent to St. Augustine's, New Straitsville, from whence he was transferred to Corning.

In his first census report of Sept. 1, 1882, Father O'Boylan stated that the "proposed new church will be dedicated to St. Bernard," adding that "at present we have only St. Malachy's school for Mass." Apparently there must already have been a chapel. But "on all Sundays and holydays we celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. in the school house."

Already there were 244 families, including single men who were in the majority. The total "includes the German portion also" (2). There were 244 males, 115 females, 191 boys and 164 girls, for a total of 714 souls in the parish. All were practical Catholics. There were "about seventy" children in catechism classes which were taught every day in the week except Saturday.

Societies in the parish had already been organized. They were the Ancient Order of Hibernians (A.O.H.), the Confraternity of the Holy Family and the

Living Rosary society. There was \$400 insurance on the church and \$500 on the parochial residence, further indicating the church to be of chapel size. Property reported by Father O'Boylan included "5 ac., 3 rds. land, 1 Pastoral residence, 1 school House." The first deed recorded for parish property is dated April 14, 1882 (4), and was for $\frac{1}{2}$ acre, more or less. The deed for the five acres listed by the pastor was not signed until July 31 of the following year. This second piece of property was bought from Mary A. Corcoran and husband. On it was the Chapel, the rectory, a barn and the cemetery [See illustration].

In the school that year were 92 students. "Grammar and mathematics" were the "studies in the highest class." There was one teacher and "the Rector himself teaches occasionally."

The pastor complained about the poor support "out of the large congregation which I have." Only 82 paid any dues, and prices there were "higher than any other town in the state." He gave his residence as "Mount Pleasant, Corning."

Father O'Boylan's first financial report was for "St. Malachy's Chapel, Corning, Perry Co., Ohio, from Jan. 1, to July 1, 1882." Receipts totalled \$782.96 and included \$186.50 from "Subscriptions to woods chapel and improvements." Due for chapel fixtures was \$256.00. Due on the cemetery account was \$200.00 and on the rectory, \$530.00.

That the cemetery was purchased before 1883 is evident from a note Father O'Boylan made on his financial report July 1, 1882, to Jan. 1, 1883. He wrote: "The Rev. Secretary will please note that I purchased 5 acres of land adjoining Pastoral Residence since last report and also in above debts that cemetery debt is included."

This second financial report is designated as for "St. Malachy's Church." Receipts for the six months totalled \$1,806.13, a considerable sum for that day. It included receipts from a parish fair amounting to \$1,796.13.

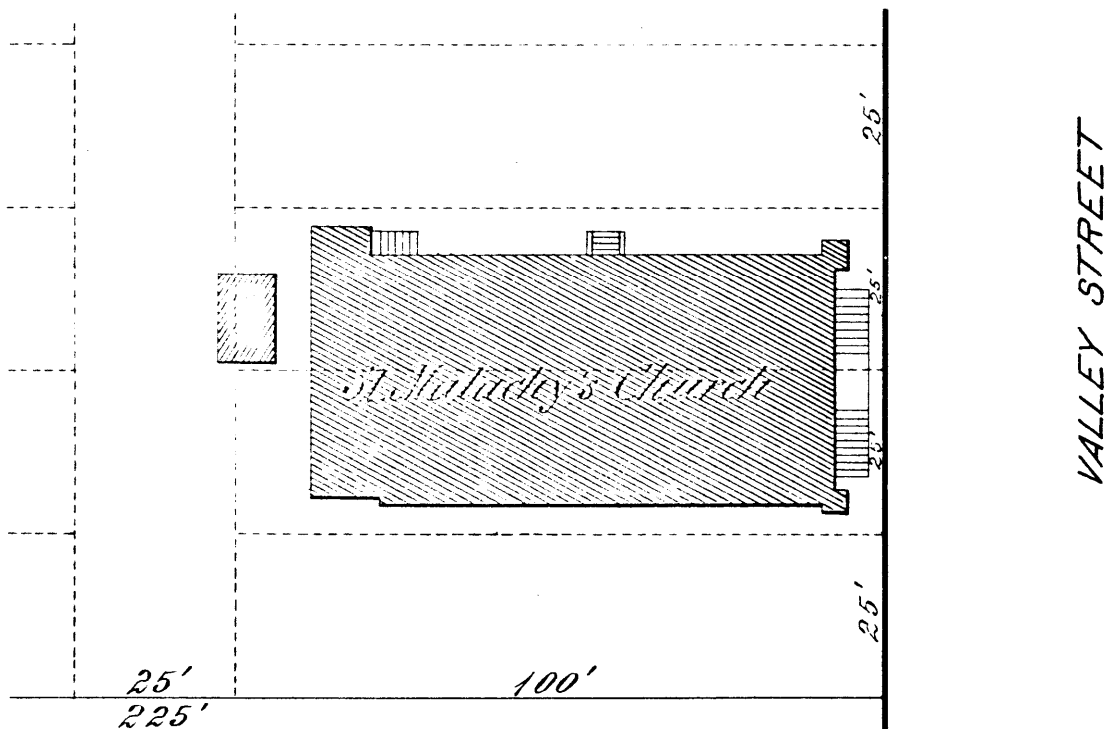
In the next financial report, for the first six months of 1883, receipts were \$530.43. The debt was \$1,013.14. For the last half of the year, however, receipts totalled \$1,530.69, including \$899.99 from a fair. Among expenditures for property repairs was included a fence for the cemetery.

The census report for the year ending Sept. 1, 1883, was for "St. Malachy's, Corning, and St. Boniface, Buckingham." (5) Mass was celebrated every Sunday and Holyday in Corning and twice monthly at Buckingham. The number of families had now dropped to 158, with 96 being in Corning and Rendville, and 62 in Buckingham and Berbick [Berboc]. Total number of souls was 632. But there had been 50 children baptized and five adults. The average attendance at catechism was 105.

Apparently the school was not in operation since all the children in Corning were attending the public school. In Buckingham there was one teacher. A committee controlled the school there and paid the teacher "per capita". Five acres had been purchased in Corning during the year, and eight lots in Ferrara. A picket fence around the cemetery was almost complete, and a marble cross would soon be erected in the center. "My parish is now well united," Father O'Boylan reported.

There is no financial report extant for 1884. The census report is for St.

Malachy's, Corning; St. Francis', Chapel Hill, and St. Boniface's, Buckingham. Mass was celebrated every second Sunday in the two missions. There were 625 souls in 210 families under the pastor's care. Of these 59 families, with 256 souls, were at Chapel Hill.



The above sketch is from an old Plat Book in the Diocesan Archives. Although labelled St. Malachy's, its location indicates the new church.

From Sept. 1, 1883, to Sept. 1, 1884, there were 55 baptisms, four of them adults. Children being taught catechism included 100 in Corning, 30 in Chapel Hill, and 40 in Buckingham. Insurance on the church was now \$4300.00. Eight lots had been bought of Nelson Rodgers during the year. They were located in the village of Ferrara between Corning and Rendville.

The school [at Buckingham] was under a committee with one teacher and 55 students (6). Father O'Boylan added the suggestion to his report that "an assistant priest be sent to Corning to attend to the missions." He wrote: "Since my time in Chapel Hill, i.e., after the demise of Father Brogard, and up to Father Rooney's appointment (Fr. Rooney was appointed at my request) several families have scattered away from C. Hill and a great number have practically left the Church."

There are no more census reports available for St. Malachy's. However, the financial report for the first six months of 1885 is given for "St. Bernard and St. Malachy." The new church was already under construction. A fair and collections for the new church netted receipts of \$3,644.74. Due the contractor for the church was \$2,020.42.

The financial report for the last six months of 1885 is for "St. Malachy's Church." Six months receipts were \$656.33. The parish fair was still in progress.

The final financial report for St. Malachy's was dated July 1, 1886. However, by that time the pastor could write "As St. Malachy's is no longer in use I wish to have my address 'St. Bernard's Church' put in Directory." Apparently the new church was ready for use before the date of the report.

It has been noted that the first chapel was probably named St. Malachy at the suggestion of the pastor, Rev. Bernard M. O'Boylan. [Was his middle initial for Malachy?] So it would seem he selected his own patron saint for the new St. Bernard's church.

Be that as it may, St. Malachy's was no more. The cemetery contained the remains of many of its pioneers.

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- (1) History of Perry County, Ohio, by E.S.Colborn, 1883, p. 221 and 222.
 - (2) By the "German portion" Father O'Boylan probably meant the Catholics at Buckingham a few miles southwest of Corning.
 - (3) History of the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop J. J. Hartley, 1968, p. 472.
 - (4) Perry County, Ohio, Deed Books, Vol. 28, p. 288.
 - (5) Research reveals little about any mission parish at Buckingham. Its title, St. Boniface, indicates that many of the Catholics there were of German descent.
 - (6) One-room schools were not uncommon in those days.

ST. REMIGIUS CHURCH, COLUMBUS
SACRAMENTAL REGISTER, 1837 - 1846

(Continued)

By Donald M. Schlegel

Year 1839, continued

82. 17 November: Maria, daughter of Johann Died. Brückman 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; the mother had married Wendelin Saile and the "Bridgeman" children were living with them. They had immigrated from Germany around 1837. (Ward 5, p. 447)]
83. Same Day: Maria, daughter of Georg Engler and Elisabeth Steigler. Sponsors Fridolin Shuhmacker and Elisabeth Frank. Josjua M. Young.
[Georg "Inglor" was living in Columbus, Ward 3, in 1840. (p. 234) In 1850 his widow was living in Ward 5. The family immigrated to Pennsylvania from Germany around 1835 and to Ohio around 1839. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 440)]
84. 30 November: Elisabeth, born 7 June, daughter of Adam Jahn and Veronica Zapf. Sponsors Johann Rapp and Elisabeth Rapp. H. D. Juncker
[John Rapp was a shoemaker residing on the south side of South Street near High Street in 1843.]
85. Same Day: Cornelius Joseph, born 27 November 1839, son of Georg Bauman and Sibilla Clenhard [?]. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and Christina Jacobs.
[Georg Bauman was a clock maker, born in Germany around 1813. In 1843 his residence was on the northwest corner of Friend and Third streets. In the census, his wife was named Priscella. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 471)]

86. 11 December: Maria Christina, born 5 December 1839, daughter of Johann Jacobs and Magdalena Kraus. Sponsors Cornelius Jacobs and his wife Christina. H. D. Juncker.
87. 15 December: Wendelin, con of Wendelin and Eva Redel. J. M. Young.

Year of the Lord 1840

88. 2 February: Wilhelm, born 18 December 1839, son of Conrad Spangenberg and Francisca Schulte. Sponsors Wilhelm Kreplinghof and Katharina Schrimpf.
89. Same Day: Anna Maria, born 22 December 1839, daughter of August Iliherd and Ephrasina Brossener. Sponsors Jacob Scherringer and Anna Maria Schuerker. H. D. Juncker
 ["August Ilshert" was living in Ward 1 in 1840. (p. 211) In 1850 "John Elgert" was living in Ward 5 with his wife Rosana and daughter Rosana, age 9 years. This seems to be the same person. (Wd. 5, p. 430)]
90. 16 February: Karl, born 21 December, son of Andreas Trautman and Dorothea Trautman. Sponsors Karl Klett and Margaretha Diederick. J.M. Young
 [Andreas Trautman was a stone mason, born in Germany around 1795, who immigrated with his family around 1836. (1850 Wd. 3, p. 230) In 1843 his residence was on the north side of South Public Lane, between Sixth and Seventh streets.]
91. Same Day: Josepha Katharina Maria, born 2 February, daughter of Ignaz Newmyer and Mariana Zender. Sponsors Martin Herholzer and Katharina his wife. J.M. Young
92. 17 February: Elisabeth, daughter of Johann and Elisabeth Leonhard. Sponsors Lorenz Beck and Veronica Sherer. J. M. Young
93. 24 February: Matilda, born 4 February 1840, daughter of Seriac Wölfel and Christina Lust. Sponsors Joseph Wölfel and Regina Studer. H. D. Juncker.
 ["Z. Woelful," born in the 1790's, was living in Franklin township in 1840. (p. 156) Joseph "Woelful", born in the 1780's, was also living in Franklin Township in 1840. (p. 156)]
94. 25 February: Margaretha, age ten months, daughter of Ludwig Frey and Maria Anna Müller. Sponsors Johann Frey and Margaretha Schlitt. H. D. Juncker
 [Ludwig Frey was born in Germany on August 25, 1810, son of Joseph and Margaret Frey. He was living in Jefferson township in 1840 and in Columbus, Ward 5, in 1850. (p. 414) He died January 20, 1855, and was buried at St. Jacob's.]
95. Same Day: Heinrich, born 10 December 1839, son of Andreas Bery and Louisa Frey. Sponsors Heinrich Frey and Katharina Schlitt. H. D. Juncker
 [Andrew Perry was born in France around 1820 and was living in Montgomery township in 1850. (p. 824) Heinrich or Henry Frey, son of Joseph and Margaret, was born in France around 1823; he was a farmer in Montgomery township in 1850. (p. 824)]
96. 5 July: Benjamin, son of Martin Kuhn and Katharina Lutzer. Sponsors Benedict Schlitt and Katharina Schlitt. J.M. Young
 ["Benedik", son of Martin and Katharina Kuhn, was born February 10, 1840, and died October 8, 1860. Benedict Schlitt was born January 25, 1815, and died December 24, 1849. - Tombstones at St. Jacob's.]
97. 5 July: Mary Anne, daughter of Frederick Fishinger and Blandina Rode. Sponsors Ignaz Newmeyer and Maria his wife.
 [F. Fishinger was living in Franklinton in 1840. (p. 151) In 1843 he was living on the north side of South Public Lane between Third and Fourth streets. He was a miller, born in Germany around 1812. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 458)]

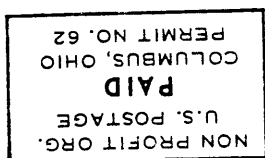
Year 1840, continued

98. Same Day: Joseph Anton, son of Martin Herholzer and Katharina Zender. Sponsors Anton Herholzer and Maria Herholzer.
99. Same Day: Josepha Katharina, daughter of Paul Kelly [Kaehly] and Maria his wife. Sponsors Morritz Besick and Katharina Herholzer.
100. Same Day: Luke, son of Joseph Beecher and Josepha Belekame [?]. Sponsors Sam Geterman and Elisabeth Wülfel.
101. Same Day: Salome, daughter of Joseph Linhard and Elisabetha Burch Bürckhardt. Sponsors Andreas Beck and Salome Steinmetz. J.M. Young
[Joseph "Linhart" was living in Columbus, Ward 3, in 1840. (p. 229) Andrew Beck was living in Ward 1 in 1840. (p. 211)]
102. Same Day: Helen, born five days ago to Timothy Sullivan and his wife Mary Nihan. Sponsors John Keegan and Mary Tiernan. J.M. Young
[Timothy Sullivan was born in Ireland around 1810 and immigrated with his family around 1838. In 1840 he was living in Ward 1. (p. 211) By 1850 he was farming in Clinton township. (1850, p. 142)]
103. 6 July: Barbara, daughter of Peter Miller and Mariana Kirchof. Sponsors Mathias Traner and Barbara Schwartz. J. M. Young
104. 7 July: Ludwig, son of Joseph Müller and Regina Sucher. Sponsors Joseph Fornagle and Barbara Schwartz.
105. Same Day: Caroline, daughter of Franz Buss and Jacobina Fisher. Sponsors Lorenz Beck and Margaret Fisher. J. M. Young
[In 1843 "Francis Bush" was a wagon maker residing at the southwest corner of Friend and Fourth streets.]
106. 27 July: Margaret Johanna, age about forty months, daughter of Peter Cullen and Elisabeth Malone. Sponsor Catherine Russel. J.M. Young
[Peter Collins was born in Ireland around 1814 and immigrated to Ohio before 1836. (1850 Wd. 4, p. 522) In 1843 his residence was northwest of the intersection of New Street and South Public Lane.]
107. 26 July: Johann, born 15 August 1838, son of Franz Joseph Kaehler and Maria Anna Hüglér. Sponsors Johann and Maria Wülfel. H. D. Juncker
108. Same Day: Joseph, born 6 March 1840, son of Franz Joseph Kaehler and Maria Anna Hüglér. Sponsors Joseph and Elisabeth Wülfel. H. D. Juncker
109. 15 August: Matilda, daughter of John Weaver and Katharina Fry. Sponsors Jacob Vogel and Mariana Vogel.
110. 16 August: Felix Albert, born 3 August 1840, son of Cornelius Jacobs and Christina Gangloff. Sponsors Jacob Kronenberger and Mariana Gangloff. J.M. Young
[Cornelius Jacobs was a gunsmith, born in Darmstadt around 1806. He and Christina were married October 29, 1839, in Perry county before Rev. N. D. Young, O.P. Their residence in 1843 was on the north side of Friend street between High and Third streets. In 1850 they were living in Prairie township. (p. 234) The son, Felix, lived in Columbus for about 100 years. He was a member of the Kilbourne and Jacobs Company of Columbus.]
111. 27 September: Philomena, born 11 September 1840, daughter of Michael Morath and Elisabetha Jacobs. Sponsors Johann Lang and Louisa his wife. J.M. Young
112. Same Day: Johann, son of Fridolin Mutter and Josepha Gerber. Sponsors Johann Fry and Sophia Bisick.
113. Same Day: Frances, daughter of Michael McDonald and Bridget Shiel. Sponsors Patrick McAdam and Mary Neihan. J. M. Young
["M. McDonald" was living in Franklinton in 1840. (p. 153) In 1850, Michael and Bridget "McDaniel" were living alone in Ward 1. (p. 733) Both were born in Ireland around 1791 and 1801 respectively.]

Year 1840, continued

114. 27 September: Elisabetha, daughter of Xavier Middleholz and Elisabetha Muehmiller. Sponsors Simon Hagner and Sidonia Middleholz. J.M. Young
[Simon "Hegner" was living next to August Ilgert in Ward 1 in 1840.
(p. 211) In 1850, two Hagner boys (Joseph, born in N.Y. ca. 1832, and Charles, born in Ohio ca. 1835) were living with John Pirung and family.
(1850 Wd 4, p. 505)]
115. 28 September: Margaretha, daughter of Karl Klitt and Margaretha Diedrick. Sponsor Margaretha Bright. J.M. Young
116. 29 September: Anna Maria, born 26 September 1840, daughter of Mathias Drott and Laura. Sponsors Joseph Nanzolin and his mother Katharina. J.M. Young
[The Nancel or Nansell family was in Columbus, Ward 3, in 1840 (p. 230) and Ward 5 in 1850. (p. 447) This sponsor is Joseph, Jr., apparently, born in Germany around 1830. His father was a shoe maker.]
117. 22 November: Michael, son of Peter Whitman and Barbara Feder. Sponsors Michael and Anna Luntz.
[Peter Whitman was born in Germany around 1813 and immigrated with his family around 1839. He was living in Montgomery township in 1840 (p. 200) and in Ward 5 in 1850. (p. 438)]
118. Same Day: Caroline Cecilia, daughter of Johann Ender and Eva Frank. Sponsor Caroline Cecilia Frank. J.M. Young
[Johann Ender was born in Germany around 1812 and immigrated before 1838. In 1850 he was living in Ward 5. (p. 406) Jacob Frank and family were living with the Enders. (See #119 below.)]
119. 22 November: Anna, daughter of Jacob Frank and Katharina Edelback. Sponsor Anna Schreiner. J.M. Young
[Jacob Frank was born in Germany around 1773; Katharina was born around 1800. In 1850, Jacob, Katharina, and "Nancy," aged ten years, were living with Johann Ender and family. (1850 Wd. 5, p. 406)]
120. 26 November: William, born 28 September 1840, son of Andrew Kelly and Margaret Anne Dowling. Sponsors Brice Helmick and his wife.
[Andrew Kelly was living in Franklinton in 1840. (p. 151)]
121. Same Day: Anna Helen, born 4 July 1840, daughter of Brice Helmick and Catherine Faust. Sponsor Martha Clark. J.M. Young
122. 27 November: Luke, son of Luke Markley and Margaretha Uri, born 6 October. Sponsors Fridolin Schumacker and Maria Uri. J.M. Young
[Lucas Markley was a butcher, born in Germany around 1814. He was living in Montgomery township in 1840 (p. 197) and in Ward 4 in 1850. (p. 521)]
123. 29 November: Georg, son of Urs Freund and Anna Maria Burckhardt. Sponsors Georg and Barbara Rinehard. J.M. Young
[Tombstone at St. Jacob's: Henry Freund, Nov. 29, 1840 - Apr. 12, 1843.]
124. 29 November: Maria Anna, daughter of Wilhelm Groblinhoff and Maria Anna Schulder. Sponsors Nicholas Hoyhow and Anna Maria Skewbroke.
[Hoyhow: see also number 173 below.]
125. Same Day: Anna Maria, daughter of Andreas Schuld and Katharina Schaefer. Sponsors Johann and Anna Neibring.
[Probably John Neibling of Lancaster. See also #279 below.]

(To be continued)



CHANCERY OFFICE
DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
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