



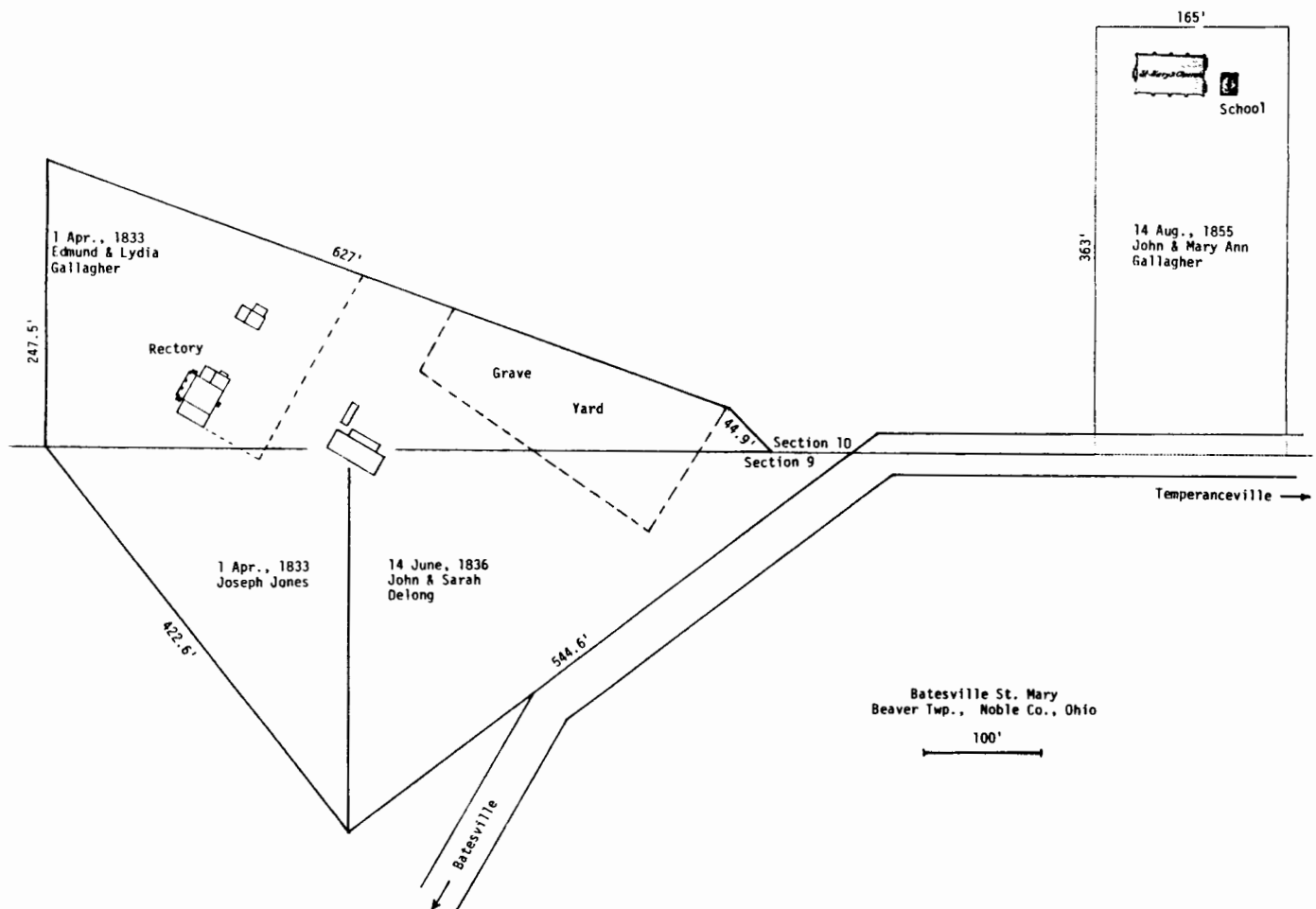
# Barquilla de la Santa Maria

## BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society - Diocese of Columbus

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- Aug. 8: St. Dominic -

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### ST. DOMINIC PARISH, BEAVER AND ST. MARY PARISH, BATESVILLE BEAVER TOWNSHIP, NOBLE COUNTY, 1819-1891

The waters of Beaver Creek in eastern Ohio rise in the hilly divide of southwestern Belmont County and wind their way gradually to the west through undulating hills, to empty into Wills Creek and eventually to flow into the Muskingum River. Among the earliest settlers to enter the valley of Beaver Creek in the present Noble County were the Delongs, who came from Pennsylvania in 1805. (1) The country they found to be wooded and hilly, but the hills

were not rugged and after clearing they could be cultivated to their summits. The bottom lands along the creek they found to be wide and very productive, for an abundance of limestone mixed naturally with the soil, rendering it fertile. The country still abounded in deer, wild turkey, and other game, but the presence of bears and wolves made it difficult for the settlers to keep hogs or sheep.

The earliest records of these settlers are the entries in the government land office books of their down payments for land. George Delong is on record in 1806 for 160 acres in southeastern Wills Township; James Delong for 160 acres in the same area in 1807; and Joseph Delong for 160 acres on the Creek one mile east of the present Batesville in 1812. (2) John Delong and his wife Sarah and their children settled at the forks of the creek before the War of 1812 (3); he became one of the leading men of the vicinity.

For Ohioans, the War of 1812 was but a continuation of the contest which the British had been waging for some time through the Miami and other Indians. In the autumn of 1812, after the surrender of Detroit to the British, war fever was at its height. "Every man ran to arms... None waited for the formality of orders." In 1813, when Governor Meigs called for 5,000 volunteers, three times that number responded. The American campaign of 1813 was only a defensive success in northwestern Ohio, where the posts of Fort Meigs, on the Maumee River, and Fort Stevenson withstood sieges of the British and Indians. In the fall of 1813 we find John Delong a Colonel, leading the First Regiment of Ohio Militia toward the front. Under his command were 738 men, primarily from Belmont and Fairfield Counties, and eleven wagons. They marched through Lancaster, Franklinton, and Delaware, reaching Upper Sandusky about September 22. Somewhere along their line of march the news of Commodore Perry's victory on Lake Erie must have reached them. The regiment marched on to camp at Lower Sandusky while the troops which had been in that area were ferried across the lake to Canada to pursue the retreating British army and Tecumseh with his Indian warriors.

By early December, Colonel Delong was in command of Fort Meigs. By January 14 of 1814, however, the Colonel was a prisoner and he soon faced a Court Martial, charged with various infractions of rules of military conduct. (4) Such charges were common among the untrained officers of the Ohio Militia. (5) The record of the Court is incomplete and we do not know the outcome of the trial, but Colonel Delong's name was not struck from the Militia rolls. (6)

It was in the years following the war that Rev. Edward D. Fenwick, O.P. began visiting Ohio on a regular basis, seeking out Catholic households and making many converts. In the Beaver Valley, George Delong seems to have been the first of his family to become a Catholic; his son James was baptized in 1820. Colonel Delong soon followed George's example and within a few years some seventy of their relatives had followed them. (7) That one such as Col. Delong would renounce his former beliefs and embrace the Catholic Faith speaks volumes about the faith and example of his Catholic neighbors, the Gallagher and McConnaghy families, and of the Apostle of Ohio, Father Fenwick.

Edmund Gallagher "was one of the aiders of Lord Edward Fitzgerald and Robert Emmet during the stormy days of 1798" in Ireland and was compelled to fly from his native County Meath to America. (8) He settled in Chester

County, Pennsylvania, where he and his bride Anna Dorsey began to raise a family. The baptisms of two of their children were recorded at St. Joseph Church in Philadelphia: John, born May 10 and baptized August 2, 1801; and Rosanna, born July 7, 1804 and baptized June 1, 1805. (9) In 1818, when he was nearing fifty years of age, the family came west to Ohio and settled in Beaver Township. (10) On December 13 of that year Edmund entered at the federal land office the southeast quarter of Section 17, containing 158 acres, lying on a branch of the creek exactly one-half mile north of the present Batesville. (11) The children were John, Christopher, Rosanna, Robert, Bridget Ann, William, Sarah, Edmund, and Thomas. Another son, Nicholas, was born after their arrival in Ohio and another daughter has not been identified.

Hugh McConnaghy, a native of Ireland born around 1778, and his wife Jane (Maxwell), a native of the state of Delaware, settled in Somerset Township, across the line in Belmont County, by 1819. The 1887 history of Noble County contains a short sketch of the Beaver parish, which seems to be accurate on almost every point which can be checked. It states that St. Dominic's congregation "was organized about 1819 by Rev. Edward Fenwick". (12) In confirmation of Father Fenwick's visit that year, the baptismal register of St. Joseph Church near Somerset (Perry County), his residence, contains records dated July 25 and 27, 1819, of the baptisms of Jane, wife of Hugh "McCaughy" and of their children John and Ann. John was then about sixteen years of age; it would appear that Mr. McConnaghy's faith was renewed and his family was brought into the Church by the efforts of the fervent priest.

In addition to Colonel DeLong, Edmund Gallagher, the McConnaghys, and Father Fenwick, a fifth person usually given credit for the founding of the parish was John S. Jefferis. Mr. Jefferis apparently was another convert from Protestantism. He was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1792 (son of Emmor and Charity Jefferis) and came to farm on Beaver Creek in 1815. (13) The Jefferis family was one of the oldest in Chester County, dating back to 1685, and most of its members well into the nineteenth century were members of the Society of Friends or Quakers. (14) He and his wife, Sarah (Brenton or Brinton) had eleven or twelve children, all born in Ohio.

There appears to be no record of the erection of the congregation's church. The different histories, first published some sixty years later, give its date as 1822, 1824, or 1825. It was built of "wrought wood", by which squared logs are probably meant, and it measured just 26 by 36 feet. (15) The site was at the south end of a farm owned by Edmund Gallagher, one half mile east of Batesville; it is now probably within the south-western half of St. Mary's Cemetery. The first contemporary mention of the church is found in 1827, when Fathers Young and Mullon went there to preach the Jubilee. The following description of the parish at that time was written by Father Young at Canton on June 1:

[From Zanesville,] Messrs Y. and M. proceeded through Muskingum to Guernsey -- on the way they preached at Washington. The Church in Guernsey is nearly finished; it was lately erected by the zeal and piety of the good people of that congregation. It is worthy of remark, that 8 years ago there was not a Catholic in this neighborhood -- it was about that time that the first convert to the Catholic faith was taken into the church. There are now about 40 families, chiefly converts a few emigrant Catholics, all

distinguished by their lively faith, piety, and devotion, affording a small, but consoling specimen of the union, charity, and fervour, which characterised the primitive christians, and which renders the excellent flock peculiarly dear to their respected Prelate. There were upwards of 50 communicants, and about 43 baptized, and some taken into the church. We were deprived of the co-operation of our Prelate on this mission... We were, however, indemnified with the satisfaction which the good people afforded to us by their assiduous attendance.-- There are about 100 to be confirmed on the return of the Bishop. (16)

At the end of the article Father Young added, "I had almost forgotten to observe that we blessed and opened three churches during the missionary tour." The conclusion is almost inescapable that the church at Beaver was one of these. The churches mentioned in the account are St. Joseph's near Somerset (dedicated 1818), St. Mary's in Lancaster (probably dedicated 1819 or 1820); St. Patrick's, undoubtedly Clover Hill, which he stated was dedicated at this time, in March and probably close to the saint's feast day; St. Barnabas in Morgan County, built "five years ago"; St. John "the Baptist" in Zanesville (dedicated July 2, 1826 or perhaps 1827, see the Bulletin Vol. XII pp 286-287); "Guernsey" or Beaver; Canton St. John the Apostle, probably dedicated in 1826 when the first resident pastor arrived; and St. Paul's in Columbiana County, the brick church which was not yet finished at the time of the visit. The dedication probably took place early in April and the church was named for the great thirteenth century St. Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers.

St. Dominic parish was attended by Fathers Fenwick, Young, and others from St. Joseph's near Somerset. Father Stephen Montgomery, O.P. apparently took over this charge when he became the first resident pastor at Zanesville St. John parish in 1823. It is impossible to verify this, because the Zanesville parish registers prior to the end of 1828 are missing. When the now-available records began, Rev. Richard P. Miles, O.P. was pastor and was visiting the eastern Ohio missions once or twice each year. His missions included the Leatherwood Valley and Archer's Settlement, both later missions of Beaver St. Dominic, and once he recorded baptisms he performed in Wheeling.

In 1832 St. Dominic's received its first resident pastor, the first of a series who remained but a short time; each one, upon leaving St. Dominic's, left the diocese as well, with the exception of one who died at the parish. This phenomenon must be attributed to the difficulties faced on that post, not because of the people, but because of the wide mission area of hills and hamlets which had to be tended on horseback. The territory included much or all of the present Guernsey, Belmont, Monroe, and Noble Counties.

Rev. Martin Kundig, the first of these pastors, was born in Switzerland on November 16, 1805 and was ordained by Bishop Fenwick on February 2, 1829. When he came to Guernsey County, the property on which St. Dominic's had been established was still held by the donors. Two parcels containing over two acres and one acre were transferred to Father Kundig by Edmund and Lydia Gallagher and by Joseph Jones, respectively, on April 1, 1833. (17) Father Kundig's stay in the parish was short; he signed the baptismal register only from November 24, 1832 until March 10, 1833. By 1837 he was in the Diocese of Detroit and he died in Milwaukee on March 6, 1879. The two parcels of parish property remained in his name until 1873, when Bishop Rosecrans of

Columbus obtained a quit-claim from him. (18) The third parcel, of over 1 1/2 acres, was transferred by Colonel John and Sarah Delong to Bishop Purcell on June 14, 1836. (19)

After Father Kundig's departure, the parish again was under the care of the Dominican priests at Zanesville: Fathers Miles, James V. Bullock, Charles P. Montgomery, and J. G. Alleman. In this period the parish was visited by its chief pastor, Rt. Rev. John B. Purcell, Bishop of Cincinnati. The visit was reported in the Catholic Telegraph of June 27, 1834.

From Fairview to St. Dominic's church, 14 miles distant, the road lies through a rough and hilly country, which is almost inaccessible by carriages at any season of the year. The church is a more respectable edifice than we had expected to see in a location so remote. It is of wrought wood and with the addition of a little paint looks, as it should, superior to the habitations of the good men by whom it has been erected. The congregation is said to consist of upwards of six hundred members. There are about two hundred, or two hundred and fifty communicants. In consequence of a rule adopted by the Bishop to admit none but those who are sufficiently instructed and disposed to make their first communion, to Confirmation, only eight persons were confirmed, four of whom were converts. The want of a resident clergyman is here most sensibly felt...

After a late Mass on Monday, 9th of June, the Bishop left the house of Mr. Gallagher, on whose land the church is built, and visited the family of Mr. Jeffers, where he had the satisfaction to see ten interesting converts; thence he proceeded, accompanied by Mr. Delong, who numbers not fewer than 70 relatives, converted, like himself to the Catholic faith, on the road to St. Paul's church, in Columbiana County...

While on this visit, the Bishop may have been shown a nearby farm of 23 acres, lying in the northwest corner of the same quarter-section as the church. This was purchased by the Bishop from Daniel Deady of Wheeling, school master, for \$250.00. The date on the deed was June 30, 1834. (20)

One other member of the congregation was mentioned in the Telegraph, the German immigrant John J. Dorr, who sang in the choir at St. Dominic's but resided south of Miltonsburg, nine miles distant in Monroe County. At his own expense Mr. Dorr had already built a church there, named St. Joseph's, and usually designated Malaga, after the township in which it was located. It was the first Catholic Church in Monroe County.

(To be continued)

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#### NOTES

1. Illustrated Atlas of Noble County, Ohio; Philadelphia: Wall, Mann, & Hall, 1876; page 9. The reference is to Wayne Township, next west of and downstream from Beaver.
2. Ohio Auditor of State, Tract Book & Entries, Congress Lands, 22 Ranges, and U.S. Military Lands, Vol. 2 (R 7, T 8 and U.S. Mil. Lands R 1, T 1).

3. History of Noble County...; Chicago: L. H. Watkins & Co., 1887; p. 577.
4. Library of Congress, William Henry Harrison Collection, Series 1, at Sept. 26, 1813 and Jan. 14, 1814.
5. Le Roy, Perry, The Weakness of Discipline and Its Consequent Results in the Northwest During the War of 1812 (Papers on the War of 1812 in the Northwest, No. 3); Columbus: The Anthony Wayne Parkway Board, The Ohio State Museum, 1958; page 7 etc.
6. The Ohio Daughters of the War of 1812 have identified a John Delong who died at the age of 36 and was buried in Ballville Township, Sandusky County, as the Colonel. It is highly unlikely that this man was the Colonel. McKelvey's 1903 Centennial History of Belmont County, page 110, lists Colonel Delong, implying he was a local man, as commander of the First Ohio, including six companies from Belmont County. The 1880 History of Belmont and Jefferson Counties, page 409, identifies the father-in-law of Christopher Gallagher (son of Edmund) as "Col. John DeLong, who served in the war of 1812." And the 1887 Noble County history, page 591, calls the co-founder of St. Dominic's parish "Colonel John DeLong." In addition, the Court Martial record mentions the Colonel's brother, James Delong, whom he had named Surgeon's Mate (even though he had no knowledge of medicine or surgery); this fits well with the James Delong who lived in Guernsey County and who was also a member of St. Dominic's. Although there are no tombstones, there can be little doubt that Colonel Delong and his wife are interred in the older portion of the present St. Mary's Cemetery.
7. Catholic Telegraph, June 27, 1834.
8. Kelly, Michael J. and James M. Kirwin, History of Mt. St. Mary's of the West; Cincinnati: Keating & Co., 1894; p. 273.
9. Records of the American Catholic Historical Society, Vol. 18 (1907), page 94 and Vol. 19 (1908), page 87.
10. Caldwell, J. A., History of Belmont and Jefferson Counties; Wheeling: Historical Publishing Co., 1880; pp 407 and 409-410.
11. Ohio Auditor of State, op. cit.
12. History of Noble County, op. cit., 590-591.
13. ibid., page 579. Futhy, J. Smith, and Gilbert Cope, History of Chester County, Pennsylvania; Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881; pp 613-614.
14. Cope, Gilbert and Henry Graham Ashmead, Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs of Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania; New York and Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1904; II/442 and 555.
15. Catholic Telegraph, June 27, 1834; History of Noble Co., op. cit., p. 591.
16. U.S. Catholic Miscellany, VI, 390. In this account, Father Young calls the church at Zanesville St. John the Baptist.
17. Guernsey County Deed Record, H/525 and H/526.
18. Noble County Deed Record, 20/185.
19. Guernsey County Deed Record, K/162.
20. ibid., I/320.

A special note of thanks to Tony Lisska and the Library of Denison University for help in locating the U.S. Catholic Miscellany and the William Henry Harrison Papers. Also to Rev. George Schlegel for making two trips to the Temperanceville area; and to Rev. Charles Mascolino, pastor of Assumption Parish in Barnesville and St. Mary Parish in Temperanceville, for allowing the records of the parish to be examined.

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BAPTISMS in the BEAVER VALLEY AND VICINITY  
1819-1833

Recorded at St. Joseph's near Somerset (From Volume I of the Bulletin.)

July 25, 1819 Jane, wife of Hue McCaughy  
 July 27, 1819 John and Ann, children of Hue and Jane McCaughy  
 Feb. 3, 1820 Hannah Archer, of Jacob and Sarah  
 same Eliseus Archer, of Michael and Rudy  
 same Robert A. Archer, of Simon and Rudy  
 same Roseanna Crossin, of Manuel and Mary  
 Feb. 23, 1820 Mary Timoney, of Denis and Ann  
 same Mary, daughter of Hue and Jane McConnaughy  
 Feb. 28, 1820 William Waterhouse, of William and Eleanor  
 Feb. 29, 1820 Daniel, son of Hue and Jane McConnaughy  
 same James, son of George and Rachel Delong  
 Oct.-Nov. 1820 "12 children in Stark and Guernsey counties"  
 Nov. 29, 1820 ---- Archer, of George and Rebecca  
 same Ann Archer of Henry & Mary  
 same Elizabeth Carrol of George and Ann  
 same Henry Archer of James and Ann  
 same Joseph Archer of Henry and Mary  
 same Joseph Archer of Michael and Cynthia  
 same Mary and Margaret Carrol, of George and Ann  
 same Michael and Margaret Archer, of George and Rebecca  
 same Michael Archer, of Michael and Cynthia  
 same Margaret Archer, of James and Ann  
 same Sarah Archer, of James and Ann  
 ---- --, 1825 Joseph Creton, son of James Creton and Bridget Hughes; spons.  
 James Sherlock and Frances Collin.  
 ---- --, 1825 Elenora Temple, daughter of William and Bridget (Egan); spons.  
 James Creton and Bridget Hughes.

Recorded at Zanesville St. John (Transcription)

Jan. 11, 1829 Hugh McConncoughy, son of Hugh McConncoughy and Jane Maxwell;  
 spons. John and Rosana Gallagher. Richard P. Miles, O.P.  
 Dec. 11, 1829 Daniel, son of William Windell and Effa Delong; spons. John  
 Delong and Elizabeth Jeffries. RPM  
 same Sara, daughter of John Delong and Elizabeth Jones; spons. John  
 and Catherine McDaniel. RPM  
 Dec. 12, 1829 Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Peter Ward and Elizabeth Timony;  
 spons. Bridget Ann Gallagher.  
 same John Augustine, son of Christopher Gallagher and Mary Delong;  
 spons. Robert Gallagher and Effa Windell.  
 same Mary A., daughter of Michael Brady and Mary Creton; spons.  
 Christoph. and Bridget Gallagher. RPM  
 Dec. 13, 1829 Catherine Ann, daughter of William Temple and Bridget Egan;  
 spons. Rosa Gallagher.  
 Dec. 14, 1829 Priscilla and John, children of Michael Creaton and Rachel  
 Conden. RPM  
 May 15, 1830 James Delong, convert, sponsor John Delong.  
 May 16, 1830 Martha, daughter of John Steward and Sarah Lewis; spons.  
 Rosana Gallagher.

same William, son of John Gallagher and Mary Ann Brenton; spons.  
 Bridget Gallagher.  
 same Sara daughter of Farrel (?) Jones and Anna Delong; spons. Anna  
 Morgan.  
 same Mary, daughter of John McConnaughy and Elizabeth West.  
 same Enoch, son of William and Anna Morgan; spons. Effa Wendal and  
 John Delong. RPM  
 May 19, 1830 Lucinda, daughter of Nathan Archer and Rebecca Morris; spons.  
 Rody Archer.  
 same Roda, daughter of Simon Archer and Roda Enocky; spons. Rebecca  
 Archer.  
 same Samuel, son of Michael Archer and Roda Grander (?); spons. John  
 Delong.  
 May 20, 1830 Jonathan and Isaac Delong, converts; spons. John Delong. RPM  
 Feb. 22, 1831 Mary, Walter, and Martha, children of Michael Burns and Martha  
 McWilliams; spons. Michael McNamara and Mary Smith. (Wheeling)  
 same Michael and Abraham, sons of Michael and Sara Seams; spons.  
 Michael and Martha Burns. RPM  
 Apr. 5, 1831\* Helen, daughter of Rodolf Roudy and Herholger; spons. John Hoof  
 and Mary Birge. (Wheeling)  
 same Jane Rose and Mary, daughters of John Moriaty [sic] and  
 Elizabeth Steyles (?); spons. Louisa M. McGrader. (Wheeling)  
 same William, son of same; spons. Louisa Cath. McGrader. RPM  
 May 12, 1831 Benjamin, son of Thomas Dillehey and Susana Martin; spons. Anna  
 Low. (Leatherwood)  
 same Lucinda, daughter of Henry Low and Anna Dillehey; spons.  
 Henrietta Dillehey. (Leatherwood)  
 same Margaret, daughter of Peter Timony and Elizabeth Ward; spons.  
 James and Anna Gallagher. (Leatherwood) RPM  
 May 14, 1831 Isaac, son of George Morgan and Anna Delong; spons. Anna Jones.  
 (Beaver)  
 same Christina, daughter of Peter Meahan and Elizabeth Morrison;  
 spons. Moyiia (?) Rinehart. (Beaver) RPM  
 Sept. 18, 1831 Jane, daughter of William Temple and Bridget Egan; spons. Mary  
 Temple.  
 same William, son of William Windal and Effa Delong; spons. Mary  
 Gallagher.  
 same Mary, daughter of John Delong and Elizabeth Jones; spons. Effa  
 Windal.  
 same Charity, daughter of John Jeffries and Sara Brenton; spons.  
 John and Catherine McDaniel.  
 same Mary, daughter of John McDaniel and Sara Maring; spons. Bridget  
 Gallagher. RPM

(To be concluded)

\* The Wheeling baptisms are included here for otherwise they would probably never be brought to the attention of researchers. The date is given as "Nona Aprilis", which is taken to be the Nones of April. It could not easily be the ninth, for Father Miles performed a baptism in Zanesville on the eighth.

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