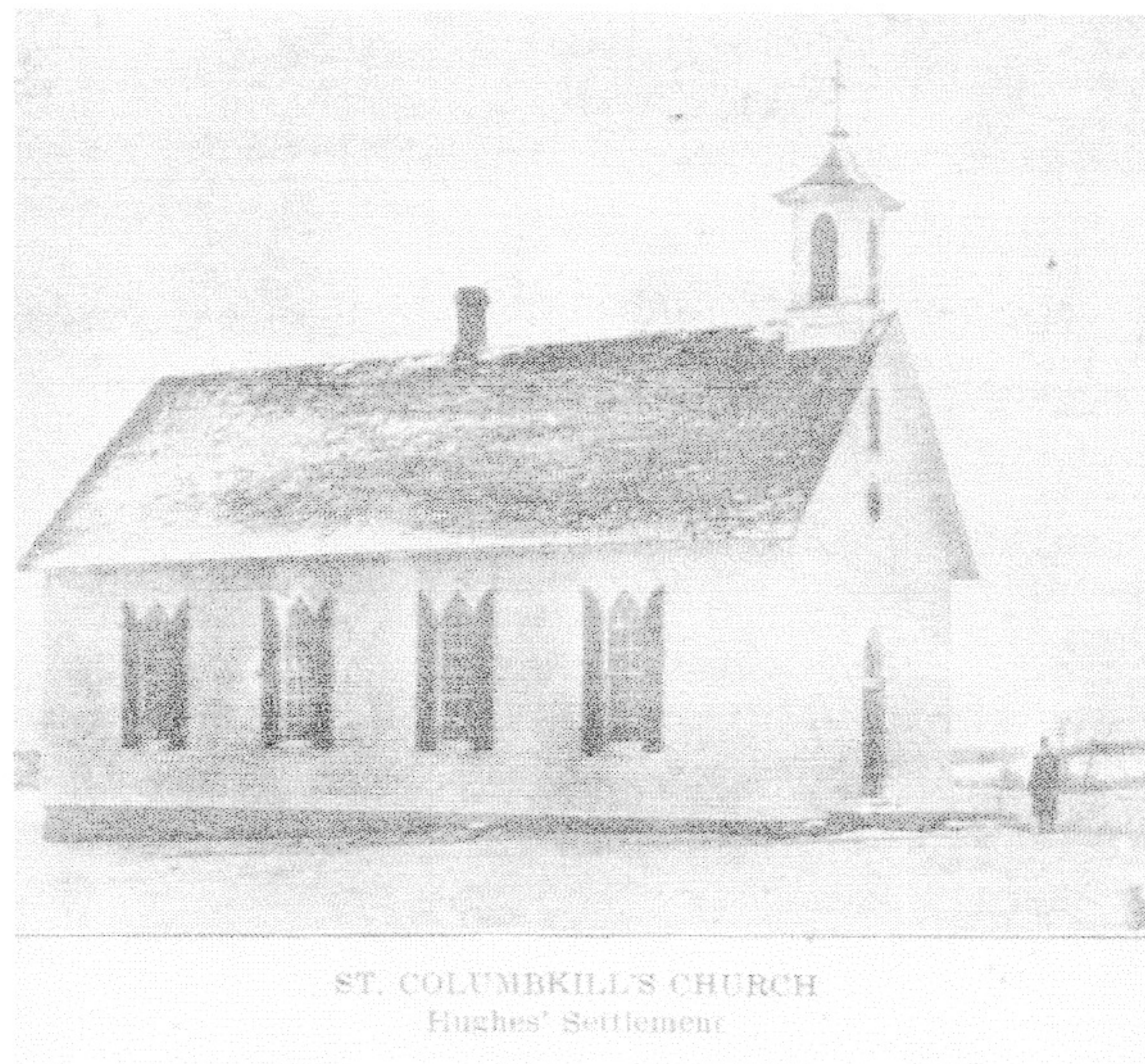


CHAPTER XII.

COLUMBKILL'S CHURCH HOUGHES SETTLEMENT.

Rev. J. Murphy, First Pastor

St. Columbkill's church is situated in the northwest corner of section ten, Berlin township, on a high eminence overlooking its fertile valleys. The corner stone of the church was laid May 15, 1879, and the cost of erecting the edifice has been estimated at \$2,000. The church was built by Father J. Murphy of Toronto, and attended at different times by the pastors of Toronto and Delmar. It is now the outlying mission of Oxford Junction, in Jones county and is attended by Father P. S. McNamara of that place. The first Mass was offered by Father Jas. W. Scallan of DeWitt in 1870, in the house of Richard Hughes, and when Mr. Hughes saw the necessity of building a church he generously donated one and a half acres of land for that purpose. Its location is an ideal one. When Father Murphy undertook the task of building the church he was loyally assisted by the Catholics of Hughes Settlement. The first Mass was celebrated in the church on the 15th of August, 1879, just three months after the corner stone was laid. The mission is in a flourishing condition, and the church building has been kept in excellent repair. Father P. S. McNamara, the present pastor, was born at Ennis, County Cork, Ireland, and was ordained in Dublin by Archbishop Walsh. He was assigned pastor of St. Columbkill's church, Hughes Settlement, in 1900.



CHAPTER XIII.

ST. MARY'S CLINTON.

Sketch of the Very Reverend Dean E. J. McLaughlin, Irremovable Rector of the Parish.

Has Been pastor of St. Mary's For Over a Quarter of a Century – Growth and progress of the Parish Under His Wise and Energetic Direction Has Been Notable.

Herewith we present a photograph of Very Rev. E. J. McLaughlin, M. R., V. F., irremovable rector of St. Mary's church, Clinton, Iowa. Father McLaughlin's deanery consists of the counties of Clinton, Jackson and Jones, in all of which catholicity is in a most flourishing condition. He is a priest whose name is written large in the annals of Iowa. Catholicity and the enduring impress of his life and labors will ever be a power for good in the state.

Father McLaughlin has a wide circle of friends, not only in and out of his parish in the city of Clinton, but throughout the archdiocese, of which he is one of the most prominent priests, and from without the diocese and in neighboring states. As one of the irremovable rectors of the archdiocese of Dubuque and as dean of the Clinton district, Father McLaughlin has been for years a conspicuous figure in the affairs of the archdiocese. As neighbors in every walk of life. The best part of Very Rev. Father McLaughlin's life has been spent in Clinton. Here for twenty-seven years he has lived and during the quarter of a century of his pastorate in Clinton, which he took up shortly after his ordination, he has seen the parish of St. Mary's grow and prosper, attaining its present rank as a leading parish in Iowa with the onward march of years. In the year 1878, when the newly ordained priest was assigned the Clinton parish to succeed his brother, Rev. P. V. McLaughlin, whose remains repose under the altar of the church he served so faithfully as to eventually wear out his life in the discharge of his arduous duties. St. Mary's church was a small frame structure, which had been erected at a cost of \$3,000 at the corner of Fourth street and Sixth avenue, on the ground where the High School now stands. The church had been built in the year 1867, and seated 1,000 people. The congregation rapidly outgrew its church home, however, and then was the forethought of some of the founders of the church, who had procured a valuable tract of land on a commanding bluff on Ninth avenue as a future site for St. Mary's church.

Present Church on Ninth Avenue Realized.

The work of erecting the present church on Ninth avenue and Sixth street was begun in the year 1886, and on June 24, 1888, St. Mary's was dedicated. It stands today, one of the finest of Iowa churches. Later a commodious rectory was constructed, also a parochial school house,

and R. C. T. A. hall, the home of the temperance society of St. Mary's. The property which serves as the Holy Family Convent also was acquired. Thus was the small and important mission converted into one of the most extensive parishes in the state, largely through the efforts of the present pastor of St. Mary's. That he may be spared for many years to the service of the church and congregation he loves, is the heartfelt wish of the people of Clinton.

Biographical

Very Rev. E. J. McLaughlin was born in Dubuque, Iowa, fifty-one years ago, and spent his boyhood days in that city. His early education was received in the Sisters' schools there and after completing the course in his home school he went to Niagara, N.Y., entering Our Lady of Angels Seminary for a classical course, which he completed at that place. Later he studied at Notre Dame, Indiana, and upon his graduation from that institution was vested with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The degree of LL.D. was subsequently conferred upon him by the University. Having completed his philosophical course, Father McLaughlin took up a theological course in St. Joseph's Seminary, Dubuque, and for a year he taught higher mathematics there. He completed his theological studies in St. Francis' Seminary, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and May 26, 1878, was ordained at St. Raphael's Cathedral in his boyhood home city. Throughout his student days he stood first in his classes in the various institutions through which he passed, and from which he was graduated with high honors. The gift of oratory which so distinguishes the pastor of St. Mary's has ever been his, and characterized him as a student. Its development is largely responsible for the prominence which the clergyman has attained, for there are few speakers of rarer ability than the prelate of St. Mary's.

- Messenger

Father P. V. McLaughlin, the first resident pastor of St. Mary's, died January 16, 1879, and was buried under the altar of the church which he built. Father P. J. Flynn is the assistant pastor of St. Mary's church.



VERY REV. E. J. McLAUGHLIN
Clinton, Iowa.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Clinton, Iowa

CHAPTER XIV.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH, DELMAR JUNCTION.

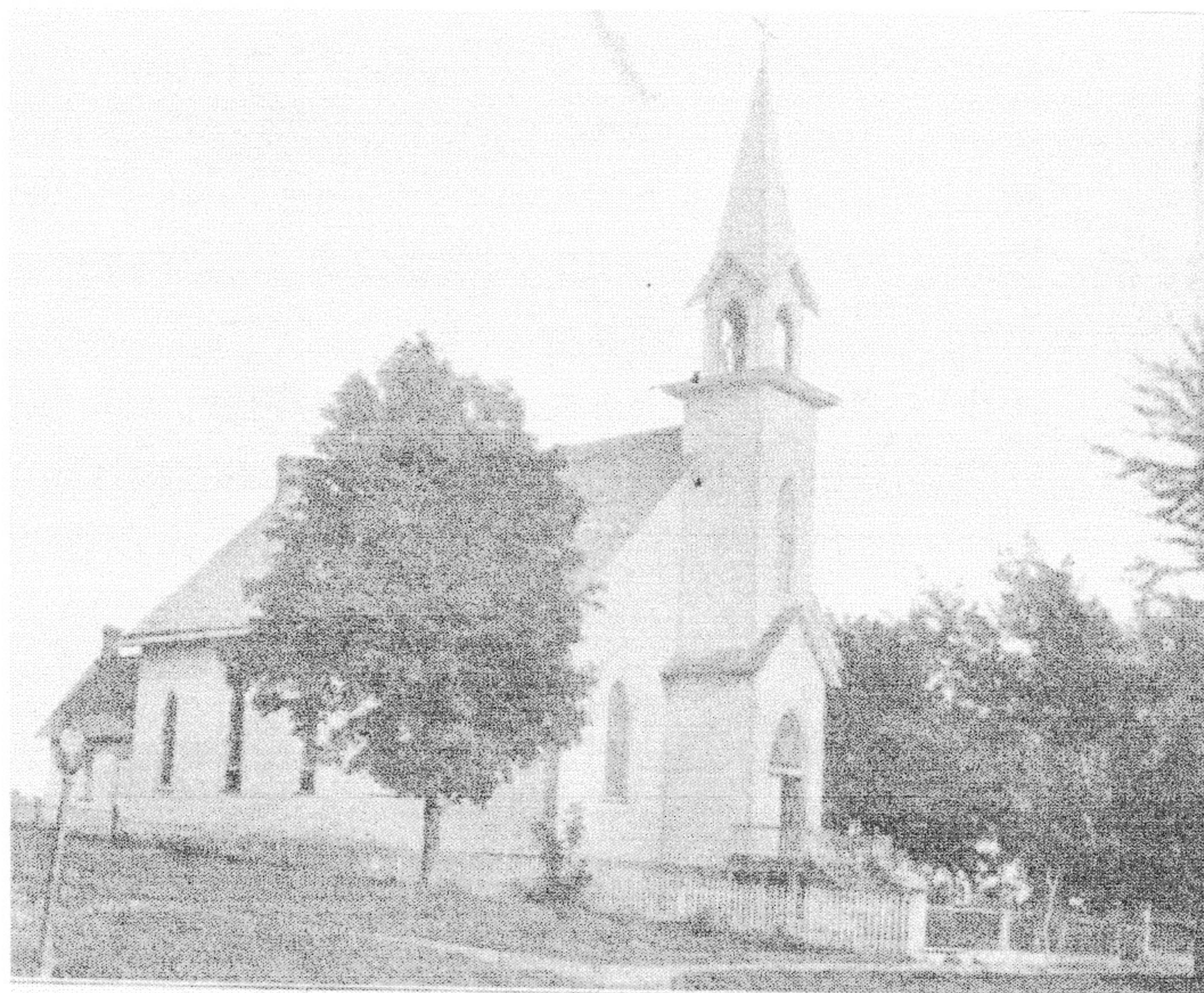
The mission of St. Patrick's was established as an outlying mission of Maquoketa, Jackson county, by Father Treacy. Father Treacy was appointed pastor of sacred heart Church, Maquoketa, in October, 1880, and attended Delmar where Mass was celebrated in Westover hall before the erection of a church. In 1882, Father Treacy erected a church edifice and parsonage at cost of \$7,000 and moved to Delmar, becoming its first resident pastor. Maquoketa is now the outlying mission of Delmar. Hughes Settlement was also an outlying mission of Oxford Junction. In October, 1887, Father D. J. Helan succeeded Father Treacy and in February, 1894, Father W. W. Cook was assigned its pastor. Father Cook was succeeded by Father Jeremiah Ryan in September of the same year, and remained until June, 1900, when Rev. Father J. F. Bowen, the present pastor, was given charge of the parish. Since assuming charge of the parish, Father Bowen has expended more than \$10,000 in church and parochial improvements. In 1903 he purchased three acres of land within the corporate limits of Delmar and platted St. Patrick's cemetery. The aggregate value of St. Patrick's church property to-day is \$25,000. The parish contains 350 souls and is in a most flourishing condition.

Rev. J. F. Bowen, the present pastor of St. Patrick's church, was born on September 28, 1860, at Asbury, near Dubuque. His father conducted a mercantile business in Dubuque. Father Bowen's earliest educational training was received in St. Patrick's parochial school, whence he graduated and then entered St. Joseph's College from which he graduated valedictorian in the class of 1883. Having completed the classical and philosophical course in September, 1883, he entered the Grand Seminary at Montreal, Canada, conducted by the Sulpitian Fathers. After three years of study in the theological course he was ordained a priest December, 1886, by Archbishop Hennessy at Dubuque. Within five days after ordination he was temporarily appointed to St. Mary's church at Sioux City, and with the aid of an assistant, managed that large parish so as to win the approval both as a priest and business manager of so large a congregation. He was next regularly appointed to Preston, Jackson County, in October, 1887. During the six years he lived there he had charge of the churches at Bryant, Clinton County, and at Sabula and Green Island.

At Bryant he built and paid for a church and house costing \$10,000 with only thirty families in the mission. At Preston, he moved and enlarged a church and built a steeple thereto, the entire outlay being \$5,000. Preston and Bryant then became independent missions and Father Bowen voluntarily gave them up and moved to Sabula in 1893, retaining Green Island as part of his charge. About eighteen months later he was appointed to Osage. In 1897, he was sent to Sabula, where he built a parsonage at a cost of \$1,100, and where he remained until June 1900, when he received his present appointment. Father Bowen is an eloquent speaker.



REV. J. F. BOWEN
Delmar, Iowa



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
Delmar, Iowa

CHAPTER XV.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, CLINTON

Rev. J. A. Murray, Pastor

St. Patrick's parish, corner of Elm and Third streets, Clinton, Iowa, is one of the youngest parishes in Clinton county. It dates its birth to Thanksgiving, 1889. On the afternoon of that day, Archbishop Hennessey notified Rev. J. A. Murray that on the morrow Monsignor Ryan would accompany him to Clinton, and there draw the outlines of a new parish. Next day both priests visited Clinton and the borders of the new parish were established. These first lines included from the old boundary line of Lyons to the alley between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

On Sunday, December 1, 1889, Father Murray met for the first time the people who were to be his future flock. The meeting took place in the basement of St. Mary's church at 2:30 p.m. The meeting was anything but encouraging for the young pastor. Evidently, the meantime from the proceeding Friday, when the news of the action of the Archbishop in regard to "North Clinton" was made public, was not spent in inactivity by the people interested, and so Father Murray dropped into a perfectly organized meeting of strenuous resistors. The late John Shepard was spokesman of the meeting; and well and feelingly he aired the "grievances" of the North Side.

"But," continued the speaker "we do not want any new priest; we have a priest and a church and an altar. We have watched stone rise upon stone in the new St. Mary's. It is the apple of our eye – we denied ourselves the luxuries and some of the necessities of life, to raise its roof tree aloft. In it are treasured the tenderest associations of our life. There we were married, there our children were regenerated, and there our dear ones were borne on their way to the grave, that the Requiem might be chanted over their mortal remains. To leave were cruel, and we, and all within us, refuse to comply."

"Nor was he satisfied with "moral suasion," but with master hand, cut off all sources of supply, declaring, "we refuse to acknowledge any responsibility for this unhappy move on the part of the Bishop, and we plainly proclaim here once and for all that we shall neither advance, nor borrow money, nor sustain any action that may make for the establishment of a church within the lines of the so called new parish."

The speaker assigned for his opposition three causes, viz. The fewness of the people in the district, the poverty of their resources, and the forbidding aspect of the field. It is scarcely necessary to add that, notwithstanding all that the new pastor could say in proof that the parishes are not made by the people, but by Church authorities; the meeting was entirely and immovably entrenched behind the conclusions of the speaker, and nothing could be done. An adjournment was taken to the following Tuesday, this meeting was but an echo of the preceding one; and thus for three weeks meeting followed meeting to end in naught. To bring matters to a close, a final meeting was called for, to meet at a little store on Second street, on the 19th of

December. The meeting was set for 3 p.m. An early hour was assigned so as to give ample time for the priest "to shake the dust of Clinton from his shoes" and leave by the evening train for Dubuque, 36

if the people still refused to co-operate. The minutes of that meeting are quickly read. The store keeper and a feeble old man, but a man who played no small part later in the parish, were the only ones to greet the priest. An hour was nervously passed, anxiously hoping that others might come, but no – then it was, when the project was about to fall through, that the old gentleman, Michael Haverty, volunteered to purchase a site for the new church. The priest was now given charge of the store and the storekeeper and the old man disappeared. Before five o'clock they returned with a contract and St. Patrick's parish was an accomplished fact. The title was vested in Mr. Haverty for two years, when the parish secured a title by partial payments and a mortgage.

The new church did not languish for patrons and champions. John Shepard chivalrously withdrew his opposition and was the first donor of \$100 to the holy cause. In just one month, the 19th of January, 1890, thanks to the push and activity of Mr. W. A. Cooper, Holy Mass was celebrated in the new edifice.

On the 17th of March following, the Church was dedicated to God under the title and patronage of St. Patrick.

No bark ever left its moorings that felt the fury of waves or the veering of unpropitious winds, more acutely than did the new parish. Within one year after its establishment came the decline in the lumber industries in the city, which more than decimated the "Pusillus Grex," the parochial crew. The purchase of grounds cost \$8,000. The building of provisional church, schools, convent and rectory cost upwards of \$10,000 more. The result of an exhaustive canvass was less than \$500. What wonder then that in December, 1891, Father Murray found himself insolvent and his parish bankrupt. Socials, festivals and all sorts of devices to raise money to keep the wolf from the door proved nugatory. Something must be done, but what?

At the time the Russians were starving in the Czar's wide domain and generous America opened up bureaus of aid in every town. Mr. A. L. Stone of Clinton, was the city's Russian Almoner. The parish got together and organized the "Christian Union" to meet the parochial emergency. The Union was to pay the parish debts; and every friend of the parish could belong to the Union by paying a contribution of from one penny a day up. The idea of the Union met with favor, and it was resolved in the midst of parochial distress to give the first fruits of the new enterprise to the Russians. Accordingly, January, 1902, brought in the first fruits and as a result \$100 were handed to A. L. Stone as the parish's mite to feed the hungry stricken Slavs. It was the darkest hour before the dawn and from that time to the present, St. Patrick's parish has been lispig, spelling, singing and shouting progress and success.

In just ten years the parish paid off all its indebtedness; and then in 1900 it rebaptized its debt paying union and started it out anew under the stimulating title of "The new Sanctuary Union." The gatherings of this Union were to be husbanded and frugally set aside for a new temple or

Sanctuary. In five years the Union gathered together over \$10,000 and with this as a viaticum the parish has auspiciously started on its new buildings

In 1905, St. Patrick's parish erected a new church and handsome rectory at a cost of \$40,000, \$25,000 of which sum was in the treasury of the parish. The new church is in style, Romanesque and occupies a ground space of 126 x 26 feet. It has a basement eleven feet in the clear, and is provided with a commodious sacristy and winter chapel. The rectory is a two-story building 56 x 39 feet. It is a companion building in every respect to the church. Both buildings stand on basements of sawed Bedford stone, the water tables and trim are portage entry red sandstone. The facing brick is the Gladbrick red pressed brick and the roof and tower are the unfading Black Bangor slate. The following gentlemen composed the various committees: Trustees – W. A. Cooper, Dominick Hook. Building Committee – M. A. Walsh, P. H. Kelly, J. E. Moran, T. R. Murray, W. A. Cooper, Dominick Hook, Ed Breen. Introduction Committee – T. H. Gavin, J. A. O'Neil, John Bennett, P. F. Hallinan, James McGonegal, Frank Whalen. The church was opened for service for the first time on Christmas morning, 1905, and one week later was desecrated by vandals, who broke the new tabernacle and abstracted the Blessed Sacrament. Two weeks later a day of public atonement was held on the third Sunday of January, at which Most Reverend Archbishop Keane presided and preached the sermon.

Besides the two new buildings just described the St. Patrick's parish has another building of which it is pardonably proud. It is St. James' Hall. This hall is a temple of temperance, and three years ago was erected by the Father Mathew T. A. Society at an outlay of \$5,000, to afford shelter and amusements to the Temperance Association. The hall is a two story L shaped frame building 40 x 30, east and west; and 80 x 30 north and south. The first floor is used as the parochial school, and the second floor is conveniently laid out for assembly, billiard, reading and bath rooms. The society is in a healthy condition as to membership and finance. It is non-sectarian and is justly proud of its first and only president, W. A. Cooper.

While St. Patrick's parish lost no opportunity to further its own interests, it never failed to lend an arrow to the exhausted quiver of a neighbor. In this field of charity, its efforts were as successful and felicitous as when put forth for itself.

In 1892 the spacious Deeds property located at the north line of the parish, was offered for sale. The picture of the homestead and grounds appeared in local papers. This picture, the pastor of St. Patrick's presented to the Metropolitan of Dubuque. The late Mother Agatha of St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, was at once summoned to the archiepiscopal residence. It was decided that the Deeds' place should be purchased for hospital uses, and within a week the beautiful grounds were dedicated to gentle Mercy.

One year later, through the instrumentality of the parish, the Judge Chase's suburban home was secured for the now prosperous Mt. St. Clare Academy; and within the following year the transfer of the sylvan bluffs where the Corbin home was perched, took place, and gave to the Sisters of St. Francis the peaceful, healthful Mother House, where is formed in leafy shade and stilly solitude, the gentle character of the teaching and nursing nun.

In just sixteen years, St. Patrick's parish with a congregation of less than 500 souls has just opened three homes for religious, charitable and educational work; and founded and built up a parochial plant, equipped in every detail and valued today at more than \$50,000. This marvelous success the parish subscribes not to itself, but under God, to the generous, approving and good-natured neighbors, Catholics and Protestants, among whom Providence has happily placed it.

The zealous and efficient pastor, Rev. J. A. Murray, under whose direction the parish has achieved such notable results, is a priest of whom Clinton and the Dubuque archdiocese may well be proud. His works are his best eulogy. His congregation are to be congratulated on having such an able, devoted, far-seeing and untiring shepherd.

Father J. A. Murray, pastor of St. Patrick's church, was born in Blarney, County Cork, Ireland, May 18, 1864, was educated in the village school and pursued his classical studies at Mount Melleray, his theological studies at All hallows, Dublin, and was ordained June 24, 1888. He came to Dubuque in September, 1888, and was appointed assistant at the Cathedral. He was subsequently made chancellor of the diocese, a position he filled until given his present charge. Father Murray's friends are legion.



REV. J. A. MURRAY
Clinton, Iowa

1a



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
Clinton, Iowa

2.



INTERIOR ST. PATRICK'S
Clinton, Iowa

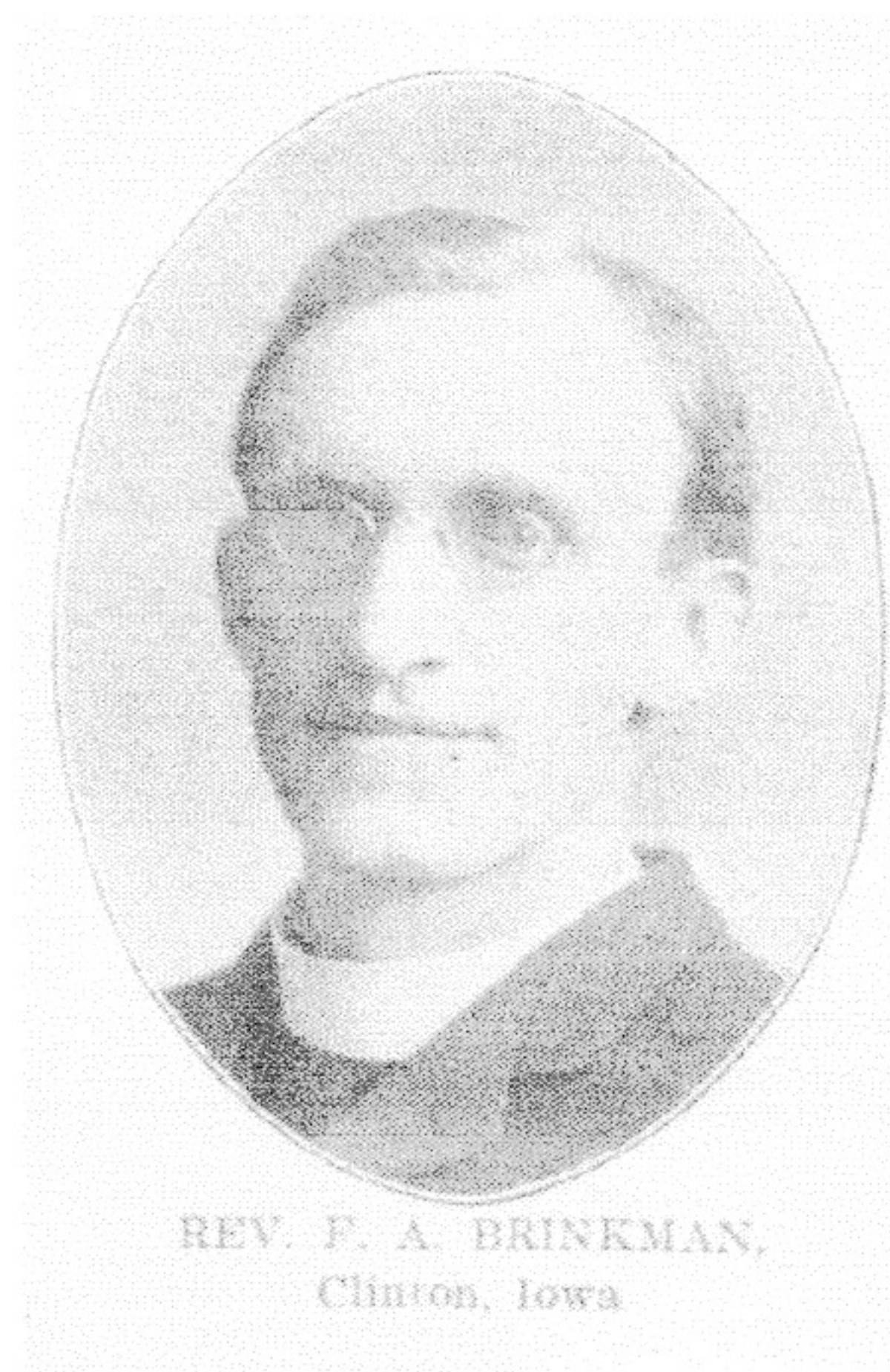
CHAPTER VI.

SACRED HEART CHURCH, CLINTON.

Rev. F. A. Brinkman, Pastor.

The church of the Sacred heart has its inception in the year 1891, the church property having been previously acquired. The church had stood several years prior to that date however, it having been erected by a non-Catholic denomination and was used by the A. P. A., a peculiar anti-Catholic society, as a meeting place. The building was subsequently sold at a mortgage sale, and was purchased by the German Catholics of Clinton when Sacred Heart mission was permanently established. The congregation at this time numbered about eighteen families. In succeeding years, however, the number has increased to forty-five. The small congregation has been successful in clearing off the indebtedness of the church. In 1900, the dwelling house adjoining the church was purchased and converted into the present rectory. The church is situated on the corner of Fourth avenue and Fourth street, in the central part of the city. In 1893, the fine parochial school adjoining the church, was completed and an addition has recently been made to the building by the present pastor. The aggregate cost of this building is about \$3,500. The school accommodates about fifty pupils and is in charge of the Franciscan nuns of Dubuque. Sister Monica is superior. The first pastor of Sacred Heart was Father Schulte, who was then pastor of St. Boniface church at Lyons, and who attended Sacred Heart as an outlying mission. It remained as an outlying mission of St. Boniface until 1893, when Father Trumm took charge of the parish as its first resident pastor. In 1904, he was succeeded by Father Brinkmann, the present pastor..

Father F. A. Brinkmann, the present pastor, was born at Petersburg, Iowa, in 1874, and received his classical education at Mt. Cavalry, Wisconsin, and St. Joseph's College, Dubuque, Iowa. He pursued his theological studies at Montreal, Canada, and was ordained December 23, 1901. He was appointed assistant pastor of St. Mary's Clinton, and received his present appointment March 8, 1904.





SACRED HEART CHURCH
Clinton, Iowa



REV. J. M. KISSANE
Clinton, Iowa