



# Barquilla de la Santa Maria

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

Vol. XV, No. 4

- Good Friday -

April, 1990



MT. CALVARY CEMETERY, COLUMBUS  
PRIESTS' CIRCLE

The central fact of all human history, the crucifixion of our Lord, is depicted in the center of Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Columbus by the large crucifix standing in the center of the priests' circle. From the side of our Lord on the Mount flow all graces, as in a river "from the right side of the temple", and so it is fitting that the ordinary ministers of the sacraments be gathered around Him. Since the cemetery office has no record of the priests interred there, we present the inscriptions on their memorials in this issue.

- Rt. Rev. John A. Watterson, Second Bishop of Columbus, born May 27, 1844, ordained August 8, 1868, consecrated August 8, 1880, died April 17, 1899.
- Rev. J. P. White, born Mar. 29, 1859, ordained Mar. 29, 1884, died Jan. 26, 1893. Requiescat in Pace.
- Rev. T. J. Lane, born July 8, 1847, ordained Dec. 21, 1877, died Oct. 26, 1891. Rest in Peace.
- Rev. Peter Gladu, born Canada Mar. 17, 1855, Priest Oct. 28, 1881, died Columbus Aug. 30, 1903.
- Rev. David A. Thompson, born Mar. 30, 1866, ordained Jan. 6, 1892, died June 19, 1898.
- Rev. J. Mahoney, born Sept. 12, 1858, died Aug. 27, 1894, ordained Nov. 1, 1886.
- Hier ruht der Hochw. J. B. Hemsteger, Erster General Vicar der Diocese Columbus. Geb. 23. Sept. 1827. Zum Priester gewieht 12 Mar. 1854. War er 5 Jahre \_\_\_dig in Piqua und umliegenden Missionen. Wurde dem Pfarrer an der hl. Kreuz Kirche in Columbus, wo er 20 Jahre\_gens reich wirkte. Gest. 18. Oct. 1878. Moege seine Seele ruhen in Frieden. Pater. Ave. Seine hefbetrübten Geschwister.  
[Here rests the Rev. J. B. Hemsteter, first Vicar General of the Diocese of Columbus. Born Sept. 23, 1827. Ordained Mar. 12, 1854. He was for five years (stationed) at Piqua and the nearby missions. He was the pastor at Holy Cross Church in Columbus, where he effected a twenty-year "reign". Died Oct. 18, 1878. May his soul rest in peace. Pater. Ave. His grieved siblings.]
- Rev. John W. Brummer, born 1824, ordained priest 1851, worked in different missions in Ohio and Tennessee like a faithful servant. Died of consumption the 19th day of June 1872 in St. Francis Hospital, aged 48 years and 6 months. Pater. Ave. May he rest in peace amen.
- Rev. Father Thomas O'Dea, Seminarist, 2 years at St. Thomas, Bardstown, Ky. 4 years at Mt. St. Mary's, Cincinnati, Ohio. When ready for ordination he died Feb. 1, 1871. The first occupant of this circle. R.I.P.
- Father John Meara, born Feb'y 21, 1853, ordained May 28, 1877, died May 20, 1878.
- Rev. Benj. P. Horny, Jan. 4, 1856 - Oct. 29, 1903.
- Rev. Francis Moitrier, 1839-1906. Rest in peace.
- Rev. William Clauter, Died April 3, 1899, Aged 33 y'rs. Requiescat in pace.
- Rev. Charles Wirtz, ordained June 13, 1908. 1881-1918. Requiescat in pace.
- In memory of Rt. Rev. Monsignore F. X. Specht, V.G., 1840+1913. Requiescat in pace. [His is the Sacred Heart statue on the north side of the circle.]
- Rev. Father Michael M. Meara, born Oct. 22, 1850, ordained May 30, 1874, died Jan. 24, 1925.

In Cathedral division lot 41-A:

- Rev. R[ichard] J. Fitzgerald, died July 15, 1897 in the 20th year of his priesthood.
- In memoriam Rev. William J. Fitzgerald, died Mar. 22, 1882 in his 28th year and 6th of his priesthood. As the Father hath sent me I also send you. St. John XX-21.

In Cathedral division lot 78-B south:

- Rev. M. A. Smith, born Dec. 24, 1865, ordained July 25, 1890, died Oct. 3, 1902.

Also on the grounds, possibly in the priests' circle, are the remains of Rev. James Meagher, pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Parish. He died in Mendota, Ill. on Aug. 6, 1860. His remains were brought to Columbus and interred in the old Catholic Cemetery in January, 1861 and later were taken to Mt. Calvary.

## THOMAS MERTON AND THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS CONNECTION

Anthony J. Lisska  
Denison University

Every reader of the works of Thomas Merton -- sometimes called "The Most Famous Monk of Our Time" -- knows about Merton's connection with our neighbor state, Kentucky. Merton lived at the Abbey of Gethsemani near Bardstown in central Kentucky for over a quarter of a century (1941-1968). Today, moreover, the Merton Archives are located at Bellarmine College in Louisville. Merton's books on spirituality, religious culture and social criticism are justly famous throughout the English-speaking world. Yet his autobiography, The Seven Storey Mountain, is probably his most widely read work; it was an immediate best seller when it appeared in 1947.

Less well known, however, are Merton's connections with Ohio, and in particular his connections with the area of the Buckeye State now part of the Diocese of Columbus. (1) This brief essay will treat two aspects of Merton's life that show his roots, both secular and monastic, taking hold in the Diocese of Columbus.

### The Jenkins of Zanesville

Merton's maternal grandparents, Sam and Martha Jenkins -- "Pop and Bonnemaman," the proper names so familiar to the millions of readers of The Seven Storey Mountain -- were both native Ohioans. In Merton's best-selling autobiography, however, Michael Mott notes (2) that Merton's paternal ancestry receives more notice than that of his mother. Mott speculates that "the Mertons do much better than the Jenkins family, on the supposition that readers would rather read about New Zealand than Ohio or Douglaston." Owen Merton, Tom's father, was a New Zealand artist whom his Ohio-born mother met in Paris in 1913.

Mott tells us that "The Jenkins family were pioneers in Ohio, a fact Sam Jenkins was proud of, as he was of telling people he was a member of the Sons of Ohio." (3) Sam's parents, James Jenkins and Mary Adams, were married in Zanesville in 1855. In 1862, Samuel Adams Jenkins was born in the tiny town of Bristol in Morgan County. Bristol is about ten miles east of McConnellsville. Young Sam grew up and attended school in Zanesville. Sam Jenkins married a daughter of Zanesville, Martha Caroline Baldwin, on October 8, 1885. Martha, better known to Merton readers as "Bonnemaman", was born in Zanesville in 1863 during the Civil War.

Pop and Bonnemaman had two children, both of whom were born in Zanesville. Ruth Calvert Jenkins, who bore Tom Merton in 1915, was born in 1887 and Harold Brewster Jenkins, the "Uncle" of The Seven Storey Mountain, was born two years later.

---

[There are conflicting views of Rev. M. Louis, O.C.S.O., better known to the world as Thomas Merton. Some compare him with St. Augustine. Others see his life go the way of St. Augustine's but then revert to paganism, conquered by egotism, worldly ambition, and a desire to win the approval of the world. Whichever view the reader sees, we are grateful to Doctor Lisska for this discussion of Merton's connections with this diocese. - ed.]

Mott suggests that Sam Jenkins "probably thought of himself as a Horatio Alger hero." (4) He ran a bookshop in Zanesville. Monica Furlong once wrote that local rumor had it that Zane Gray, another famous Zanesville son, regularly stole his reading material from Sam Jenkins's bookstore. (5) Later, Sam became a travelling salesman for a book company and eventually moved with his family to New York City. There, working for the publishing house of Grosset and Dunlap, he eventually built a house for his family in Douglaston, Queens. This house figures prominently in The Seven Storey Mountain. Historical evidence suggests that Ruth lived in Zanesville only for five years or so before Sam moved the family to the New York City area.

Yet Pop appears not to have respected, let alone appreciated, the Catholicism he knew from Zanesville. When discussing Pop in The Seven Storey Mountain, Merton remarks that "the Catholic Church was the only one against which I ever heard him speak with any definite bitterness or animosity." (6)

Readers of Merton's work know that Ruth Jenkins married Owen Merton, a struggling young artist, in France. There Tom Merton was born "on the last day of January 1915, under the sign of the Water Bearer, in a year of a great war, and down in the shadow of some French mountains on the border of Spain." (7) These famous lines begin The Seven Storey Mountain.

#### The Proposed Trappist Monastery in Hebron

The second connection of Thomas Merton with the Diocese of Columbus rests on a carefully planned trip from the Abbey of Gethsemani that Merton, then known as "Father Louis" to his brothers in the Abbey, undertook in July, 1952. As far as I know, Michael Mott is the first person to bring attention in print to this journey of Merton's. In effect, this trip to Hebron, Ohio, in southern Licking County, was Merton's first excursion beyond the confines of the Abbey of Gethsemani, except for short medical trips to Louisville, from the time he had entered as a postulant in the winter of 1941. How, one might wonder, did Merton get to Hebron, Ohio on his first trip from Gethsemani in over a decade ?

Following the Second World War, the Abbey of Gethsemani was literally bulging at the seams. Built in the middle of the Nineteenth Century as a monastery to handle about seventy-five or so Trappist monks, in the early 1950s over two hundred monks were quartered there. Obviously, some plans for expansion were necessary. Abbeys in New York and California were established during this time. Merton's first trip outside Kentucky was to consider a possible foundation site in the Diocese of Columbus for the continued expansion of the Trappists in the United States.

Driving from central Kentucky, Merton's party of three travelled close to Columbus before reaching Newark. Merton mentions this in his journals. In Newark, they met Dom James Fox, the Abbot of Gethsemani, and another Trappist travelling with the Abbot. The five Trappists then drove to look at a house and farmland near Hebron as a site for a daughter house of Gethsemani. Mott tells us that in his journals Merton described walking through the farmlands and the woods. There, Merton wrote that he discovered "an old tumbledown house and barn and a few Guernsey cows swishing in the bushes and the deep grass." (8) Merton appeared quite enthusiastic about the location. Mott notes

that "Merton was seldom indifferent to place, even to places he knew only for a few hours." (9)

The site near Hebron was a farm given to the Diocese of Columbus by the Wehrle family of Newark. Bishop Michael J. Ready actively sought to bring the Trappists to the Diocese. Given this interest, Ready offered the Trappists this farmland as a place to build a daughter house of the Abbey of Gethsemani. However, after much discussion, the Trappists apparently decided not to establish a foundation in Licking County and declined the offer of the Wehrle farm. Bishop Ready then offered the site to the PIME Fathers as a location for their high school seminary. This seminary exists today at 2734 Seminary Road SE, northwest of Hebron. (10)

While near Hebron, Merton was consciously aware that he was near the ancestral roots of his maternal family, Pop and Bonnemaman. Hoping to travel to Zanesville to visit his family "home", he was rather disappointed that such a trip east to Zanesville was not forthcoming that day. In his journal, he noted with emotion the geographical importance of the Hebron site personally for him:

...where Pop came from and where my mother was born. I was inexpressibly moved by the thought that perhaps I would someday start a monastery in this land which is mine without my ever having lived in it. (11)

This plan of expansion for the monks of Gethsemani in the Diocese was rejected by the Trappists because the site was not isolated enough for a monastery. The Wehrle farm was too near the then southwest expansion of the cities of Newark and Heath. (12) Whatever, nothing came of this proposal and Merton never was able to found a monastery of Trappists in Licking County, Ohio. Mott also notes that Dom James, Merton's religious superior, probably did not consider Merton as the appropriate person to found a monastery anyway.

Nevertheless, it is interesting to note the central role that this largely non-Catholic area of the Diocese of Columbus played in the life of this most famous monk of our time. That his mother was a Zanesville native is historically correct. One might only speculate what might have occurred had Merton been named the founding abbot of a Trappist monastery in Hebron, part of the Diocese of Columbus. Then Merton's Monk's Pond poetry journal might have referred to Buckeye Lake!

---

#### NOTES

1. In the Merton Seasonal, several years ago there appeared a poem written by Merton talking about "the Ohio blood" in his veins. This newsletter is published by the Merton archives at Bellarmine College in Louisville.

On November 5-7, 1985, Denison University sponsored a symposium on the writings, thought, and influence of Thomas Merton. Participants included Michael Mott, Sister Mary Luke Tobin, S.L., Father Richard LeBarty (then Catholic Chaplain at Denison) and Father Thomas Shonebarger. Both Fathers LeBarty and Shonebarger, priests of the Diocese of Columbus, had been novices under Merton at Gethsemani.

In writing this article, the author acknowledges the assistance received

from conversations with Fathers LeBarty and Shonebarger and Monsignor James Kulp.

2. Michael Mott, The Seven Mountains of Thomas Merton; Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1984, p. 91. Born in France in 1915, Merton died in 1968 while attending and East/West Monastic Conference in Bangkok.

3. Ibid., p. 12.

4. Ibid.

5. Monica Furlong, Merton: A Biography; San Francisco: Harper and Row Publishers, 1980, p. 7.

6. The Seven Storey Mountain, p. 21.

7. Ibid., p. 9.

8. Mott, p. 270.

9. Ibid.

10. Both Monsignor James Kulp and Father Thomas Shonebarger kindly provided this information about the location of the proposed Trappist foundation. There is no textual evidence in the Archives of the Diocese of Columbus concerning this proposed Trappist site.

11. Mott, p. 270.

12. Father Thomas Shonebarger kindly provided this important information about the eventual disposition of the expansion planned for the Wehrle farm.

-----  
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SOMERSET, OHIO  
REGISTER OF BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES, 1827-1851  
(Continued from Vol. XV, No. 2)

1838, continued

July 9 Margaret Miner, daughter of James and Bridget Miner; spons. Hugh Miner and Bridget H----. NDY

(same?) James, son of Michael McBride and Anna McBride; spons. Owen Laughlin and Anna Ryan. NDY

July 17 Henry Louis, son of Nathaniel Shockley and Mary Shockly; spons. Margaret McCormick. NDY

Sept. 13 Lawrence, son of Patrick Footman and Elizabeth McGlocklin; spons. Lawrence Footman and Mary McGlocklin. NDY

Sept. 17 Henry David Finck, son of David Finck and Elizabeth Gon[g]loff; spons. Mary Finck. NDY

Sept. 26 Joseph and Mary O'Neial, children of Patrick O'Neil and Christina Ostenburg; spons. Edward and Bridget Slavin. NDY

Sept. 16 Matilda, daughter of Joseph Hodge and Rachael Dittoe; spons. Adam Finck and Ellen Finck. NDY

Sept. 30 William Henry, son of John Borer and Mary Lekart (?); spons. Jacob Dittoe and Rebecca Dittoe. NDY

(page 46)

Oct. 2 Catherine Barbara, daughter of Anthony Bloom and Margaret Bloom; spons. Mary Elizabeth Bloom. NDY

Oct. 12 Tresa (?) Ann, daughter of James Elder and Mary Ly[nch?]; spons. Patrick ---- and Susan Huit. NDY

Oct. 21 John Bradly, son of Aeneas Bradly and Elizabeth Schulz, born Oct. 7; spons. Victor Wuest and Rosina Mahan. Hieronymus Vogel.

Oct. 22 John Alexander William, son of Jacob Kintz and Alice Marr [or Man?]; spons. Charles Kintz and Maryann Marr(?) NDY

Oct. 29 Jacob, son of Owen Studer(?) and Elener Lych[sic]; spons. Catherine Lynch. NDY  
 Oct. 30 Catherine Ann, daughter of Jacob Miller and Maria Rook; spons. George and Christina M----- . NDY  
 Nov. 11 Charles Dominic Elder, son of Charles Elder and Elizabeth Lynch; spons. Peter Early and Catherine Cull. NDY  
 (page 47)  
 Nov. 11 Mary Magdalene, daughter of Joseph Fremont(?) and Margaret Fremot(?); spons. Anthony F---ter(?) and Magealena Stuter. NDY  
 Nov. 11 Joseph, son of Nicholas Hamman and Susan Davidson; spons. Michael Hammon and Barbara Studer. F.J.H. Clarkson  
 Nov. 25 Edward, son of Michael McHugh and Ann Kern(?); spons. Patrick March(?). NDY  
 Nov. 25 Elizabeth, daughter of Michael McHugh and Anna Kern(?); spons. J. Wade. NDY  
 Nov. 25 John, son of Paul Cunse(?) and Mary Bower; spons. Stephen Miller and Catherine Miller. NDY  
 Dec. 16 Hariot Ann, daughter of John Trunnel(?) and Mary Ann Harper (?); spons. Augustus Delong and Elizabeth Harper. NDY  
 Dec. 29 James Miles Johnson, born Dec. 25, son of James Johnson and Sara(?) Fink; spons. Robert and Catherine Harkins. NDY  
 Dec. 30 Margaret Ohera [? perhaps Olivia], daughter of Daniel and Catherine McKinney; spons. Edward and Mary Magruder. NDY  
 Dec. 31 Elizabeth O. Fink, daughter of John Fink and Elizabeth Walker; spons. James hart and Frances Hart. NDY  
 (page 48)

1839

Jan. 1 Absolom Adams, adult, convert; spons. James J----- . [NDY]  
 Jan. 12 John B. Purcell, son of William May and Catherine Guisinger; spons. Margaret Guisinger. F.J.H. Clarkson  
 Jan. 20 Sebastian, son of Frederick and Mary Ann Boner(?); spons. Bridget ----- . NDY  
 Jan. 26 Mary, daughter of Michael McDonal and Orlina Gloid; spons. Patrick McCabe and Grace Keenan. FJHC  
 Jan. 29 Lawrence James, son of John Darby(?) and Elenor Footman; spons. Lawrence Footman and Mary Footman. NDY  
 Feb. 2 Hugh, son of Hugh McGonigle and Mary Quinn; spons. Richard McGonigle and Susan. NDY  
 Feb. 3 Mary, daughter of Auston Dilonly(?) and Elena Kelly; spons. Terence Kelly and Mary Kelly. NDY  
 Feb. 11 Mary Elizabeth, daughter of William and Elizabeth Brown; spons. James assen and Catherine ----- . NDY  
 Feb. 12 Margaret, daughter of Martin and Elenor Maginnes; spons. James and Margaret Magi(nnes?). NDY  
 (page 49)  
 Feb. 19 Catherine Loretta (?), daughter of Joseph Kuldenbaugh and Mary Kaldenbaugh; spons. James Johnson and Jane (Fink). NDY  
 March 9 Mary Catherine, daughter of [blank] McCune and Anne. NDY  
 March 13 Patrick, son of Brian Bartel and Mary Burns; spons. Patrick Gartland and Agnes Cassily. F.J.H. Clarkson  
 March 14 Edward, son of Edward Nugent and Mary Runck(?); spons. James Footman and Frances Fitzpatrick. NDY  
 same John, son of Thomas Fitzpatrick and Frances Fitzpatrick; spons. Edward Nugent and Mary Runick(?). NDY

same Sara, daughter of Peter Gallighar and Bridget O'Farry(?);  
 spons. Patrick Morin (?) and Catherine Rogan. NDY  
 same James Friel, son of Bernard Friel and Sabilla Shields; spons.  
 Thomas Rogan and Catherine Sherlock. NDY  
 same Mary, daughter of Thomas Burn and Catherine Ranick(?); spons.  
 Edward Kunck(?) and Mary Shanesy. NDY  
 March 17 Adam, son of William Gordon and Lydia Gordon; spons. John  
 Wiseman and Elizabeth Wiseman. NDY  
 March 29 Catherine Ruth Ann Boor, adult; spons. Bridget Huit. NDY  
 April 7 James, son of Denis Vernon and Sarah Vernon; spons. Patrick  
 Footman and Margaret Daly. FJHC  
 same Ellen and Rosann, daughters of [blank] Hare and [blank] Hays;  
 spons. Emanuel Crosson and Sarah Dempsy. FJHC  
 (page 50)  
 April 8 Bridget, daughter of John King and Catherine Malany (?); spons.  
 Henry Martin and Bridget P-----. NDY  
 April 10 Martin, son of Terence Mageniss (or perhaps Maguire?) and Rose  
 Mageniss; spons. Andrew Doyle and Mary A-----. NDY  
 April 11 Sylvester, son of James Guisinger and Mary Swartz; spons.  
 Michael Guisinger and Susanna Guisinger (Miller). NDY  
 April 11 [blank] Hutchinson, daughter of David Hutchinson and Elizabeth  
 Miller; spons. John Miller and Mary Miller. NDY  
 April 19 Elizabeth, daughter of Terence Kelly and Catherine McNulty;  
 spons. Christopher Collins and Elizabeth McGlocklin. NDY  
 April 21 David Miles, son of Francis Trunel and Elizabeth -----; spons.  
 Adam Fink and Alis Dugan. G.A.J. Wilson  
 April 21 George, son of George Jackson and Catherine Hodge; spons. Adam  
 Fink and Elizabeth Dugan. GAJW  
 May 5 Henry, son of Philip Harvey (?) and Elizabeth -----; spons.  
 John Finck and Elizabeth Finck. NDY

(To be continued)

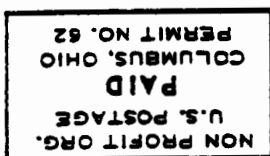
#### DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

The A. T. Wehrle Memorial Library of the Pontifical College Josephinum has donated seven books dealing largely with German Catholicism in America; among these are two valuable directories:

Bonenkamp, Wilhelm, Schematismus der deutschen und der deutsch-sprachenden Priester...in den Vereinigten Staaten Nord-Amerikas; St. Louis: B. Herder, 1882.

Englberger, Johannes Nep., Schematismus der katholischen Geistlichkeit deutscher Zunge in den Vereinigten Staaten Amerikas; Milwaukee: Hoffmann Brothers Co., 1892.

-----  
 Copyright 1990, Catholic Record Society - Diocese of Columbus  
 197 E. Gay Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Donald M. Schlegel, editor  
 -----



CHANCERY OFFICE  
 DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS  
 198 EAST BROAD STREET  
 COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215