

ing repairs costing seven hundred dollars, and delaying completion of the building till the following year.

The first mass was said in the new church to a congregation of twenty Catholic families about Christmas 1857. After mass baptism was administered to one adult and seven children.

Father Walsh's successor, in 1868, was Rev. Father Mackenhaupt, of Centralia, who attended the newly founded mission once a month for about nine months, when he died.

In May, 1868, this, as well as all the surrounding missions, were visited by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Yancker, of Alton. On September 28, 1868, the congregation of Du Quoin and the other missions were placed under the care of Rev. Chas. Kloeke, who ever since that time has remained continuously at this post.

At that time Father Kloeke was the only resident priest on the Illinois Central railroad, between Cairo and Effingham, and his labors extended over a territory, in which there now are eight congregations, each of which has a resident priest. After becoming somewhat acquainted with those amongst whom he was in future to labor, he directed his attention towards the spiritual and material condition of his congregation. Before a year had passed, the church had received a plastering, had been provided with seats, and many other necessary fixtures.

The present parochial residence was bought in 1869 of Mr. Henry Horn, for the sum of six thousand and five hundred dollars. It is a neat and substantial building, and will serve its purpose for many years to come. In one of the rooms of the residence a school attended at first by eight children, was commenced by Father Kloeke, but as the number of pupils increased, the school was removed to a small house that was standing on the same lot as the residence, and had been included in the six thousand and five hundred dollar purchase. After the removal, the school was placed under the care of Mr. John Masquet, who remained its teacher for five years.

In 1871, the congregation was divided, and two new congregations founded, one (St. Bruno's) at Pinckneyville, and the other, (St. Mary Magdalen's,) at Todd's mill, Beaucoup precinct.

At Todd's mill a chapel was built, where services are held once a month, by the priest of Pinckneyville. During the same year a brick church (35x68) was begun at Pinckneyville, which was completed in 1874. It was built under the direction of Rev. Father Kloeke at a cost of about eight thousand dollars, and is the handsomest church edifice in Perry county. Pinckneyville remained in charge of Rev. Father Kloeke until 1878, when Rev. Father L. Biesen became its rector. Father Biesen remained one year, and was succeeded by Rev. Father H. Adler, who is still there. About sixty families belong to this congregation, which is in a flourishing condition. In 1872 a two-storied school-house was erected in Du Quoin. Its dimensions are 40x24. It is an airy spacious building, well constructed, with proper regard for ventilation, etc., and is at present visited by seventy-four pupils. In 1874 forty acres of land was purchased, of which ten were reserved for burying purposes. After these large

purchases had been made, there followed a series of complete failures of the crops, rendering the members of the congregation unable to pay their contributions. In consequence of this the financial condition of the congregation had become very distressing. When the distress was the greatest there came a deliverer. Mr. Henry Horn, whose name has already several times appeared on these pages, came forward, and generously donated the congregation the handsome sum of nine thousand dollars. For this generous act the Catholics of the Du Quoin congregation owe Mr. Horn a debt of gratitude that they will never be able to cancel.

There are at present (1882) over three hundred Catholic families in this county. In 1857 there were thirty. By comparing these two figures any one that will, may see that Catholicism is steadily making slow, but sure progress within the territory of which we are writing.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

(Randolph and Perry Counties).

BY REV. J. C. ELLIOTT.

This religious organization was formed May the 26th, 1858, by the union of the Associate and the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches. The former had its origin in Scotland in the year 1733; the latter was largely a product of the American Revolution for Independence. The Associate and the Reformed Presbyterian Churches, having originated in Scotland, their members hated the tyranny of England, and many of them were in the American army fighting side by side for independence. This of course led to a union of these bodies in 1782.

In Randolph and Perry counties there are at present nine representatives of this church, the oldest of which is at

SPRINGFIELD.

It is likewise the oldest congregation of the Presbyterian faith in the State of Illinois, having been organized in the year 1810 by Rev. Samuel Brown of the Associate Reformed Presbytery of Kentucky. The first elders were Archibald Thompson, John Anderson and John Beatty. The first house of worship was built in the year 1812 by the joint labor of those "who wished a church." It was a double log cabin, 16x32 feet, and stood near what is now known as the Kelley graveyard, about two miles east of Evansville. In this same year the first administration of the ordinance of baptism was administered to forty-four children, among whom was the writer's mother. A second house of worship, a frame building about 30x40 feet, was built in 1823 or '24, and stood on the east side of the present cemetery near Preston, formerly Springfield. Their present commodious brick church was erected in 1841-42 at a cost of about one thousand dollars, and stands on a beautiful ridge in the eastern part of this little village. Besides Rev. Brown, Revs. Samuel Carothers and Alexander Porter preached for the congregation, as occasion permitted, prior to 1826. In this year was installed their first pastor, Rev. John Reynolds, who remained with them till 1829. Rev. Samuel C. Baldridge succeeded him in 1831, and resigned his charge