KOHLMANN HALL
501 EAST FORDHAM ROAD
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Page 184

Conveyances

Deeds

List of Property

McSherry Patent

Surveys & Maps

Leases - Indentures

Letters & Att'y

Sales

York Co. Penn. 20 Acre

Wood lot II
McSherrystown, Pa.

Sept., 23rd, 1918.

Rev. Joseph Zwing,
Loyola College,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Reverend Father:

Enclosed you will find two applications of the Gettysburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company, " One for the Smith Farm and one for the Small Farm. I will insert the extreme limits, and you can reduce them should you desire to do so, and sign the applications.

This will give you protection at once. I regret to inform you that Mr. Smith, and Mr. Small, is now carrying policies in the Adams County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and it would be impossible for them to accept any additional risk. I have requested my other Mutual Companies to give rates on said Farms, which I will send to you in the near future.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

F. V. TOPPER & CO., Agents,
THE PRIMAL SHRINE of the SACRED HEART of JESUS
near HANOVER, PA.

In Colonial times called CONEWAGO CHAPEL 1741


**CONEWAGO**

is an Indian word derived from “Cauhnawaga”, meaning “the place at the rapids.” It is the name of the tribe that lived at the rapids of the St. Lawrence river, near Montreal. Journeying down the Susquehanna river they gave their name to a creek that flows into that river near a series of rapids. A branch of this stream flows near our church and the name Conewago is now associated with this locality and the first log chapel and is often applied to the present parish church.

**INDIANS**

of many tribes used this region as a hunting ground. The remains of an Indian village and burying ground adjoin the church property. Tradition says that Mass was offered in this locality in the wigwams of Catholic Indians by Jesuit missionaries from Maryland before the coming of the white man.

**THE FIRST SETTLEERS**

moved into this territory because of its strategic position. It was near the intersection of two important roads: one originating in Baltimore and leading to Carlisle and the northern border, the other starting in Philadelphia and running westward to and beyond the Allegheny mountains. It was also within the disputed territory claimed by both Maryland and Pennsylvania and afforded a natural sanctuary for the English and Irish Catholics who were being persecuted for their religious beliefs in the former colony. Along the Little Conewago they built their cabins and cleared land, forming the first distinctly Catholic settlement in Pennsylvania. Even today this district remains almost solidly Catholic.

**TITLES TO THE LAND**

were first given by Charles Calvert, Lord Baltimore, about 1730, also Maryland “Squatters” had settled here before that time. The largest grant was that of 10,501 acres bestowed upon John Digges, and known as DIGGES’ CHOICE. It spread athwart the cross-roads with its northwest corner close to the church, which received its patent from the Penns. Additional farm land for the church was bought later from the Digges.

**REV. JOSEPH GREATON, S. J.**

is the first priest, whose name we know, who attended the early Catholic settlers here. He arrived in Maryland in 1719 and was assigned to the large mission territory which included northern Maryland and southern Pennsylvania. Sometimes before 1733 he took up permanent residence in Philadelphia where he built St. Joseph’s church in Willing’s Alley.

**THE MASS HOUSE**

is the name by which the home of Robert Owings, a leading Maryland Catholic, has been known for over two centuries. The land was given by patent by Lord Baltimore in 1733 and Mass was said in the house until 1741. It was known as “Bear Garden” and adjoins the church property.

**CONEWAGO CHAPEL**

was a combination log dwelling and chapel built in 1741 by Father William Wappler, S.J., a priest sent to look after the German Catholic immigrants who began to settle here in the 1730’s. Enlarged in 1768, it became the headquarters of the Jesuit missionaries of the St. Francis Regis mission circuit which embraced most of the vast territory in Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna and western Maryland and the Shenandoah valley of Virginia.

**REV. JAMES PELLENTZ, S. J.**

was one of this unaltering band. Arriving here in 1758 he became pastor ten years later and died here in 1800. A man of vision and ability, he merited the close friendship of the Rt. Rev. John Carroll, America’s first Prefect Apostolic and Bishop, becoming his Vicar General in 1791. By 1784 the Conewago congregation had grown to over a thousand members and a new church was a necessity. With the active help of the parishioners and the donations in money and stone of Baron de Beelen-Berhoff, the commercial representative of Emperor Joseph II to America, the largest church outside the major cities was started in 1785 and completed in 1787. The spacious rectory was built at the same time.

**THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

is the name Father Pelleantz gave this imposing edifice. It thus became the first parish church in America dedicated to the loving Heart of our divine Saviour and there are those who claim it is the first parish church in the world dedicated under this title. Today, it is the oldest Catholic church building in the United States built of stone and is ante-dated only by a few adobe Indian missions in New Mexico.

**PRINCE GALLITZIN**

spent his first years in the priesthood here. He was the son of Prince Dimitri Gallitzin, envoy of Catherine the Great of Russia at the Hague and his German wife, Amelia, the daughter of Field Marshal von Schmettau who served under Frederick the Great of Prussia. Visiting America in 1729, the young prince decided to study for the priesthood. He was ordained by Bishop Carroll in Baltimore in 1795 and was sent to Conewago where he remained until 1799. From here he founded the Catholic parish at Loretto, Pa., and in the 41 years he labored there he grew in stature until he is known as the Apostle of the Alleghenies. His Coat of Arms, presented by Bishop Guilfoyle of Altoona, is displayed in our church.

**THE CONEWAGO PLANTATION**

was the name given the church property about this time, as it had gradually grown from a Mass station and log chapel to the largest parish in the United States, numbering nearly 6,000 souls. About 800 acres of land had been acquired, with mills, farms, vineyard, cemetery, church, rectory, schools and barns. Fortunately, the talented Rev. Lewis De Barth, the son of a German count, became pastor in 1804 and remained in charge until 1828. From 1814 to 1820 he was administrator of the vacant Philadelphia diocese and twice declined to become its bishop, preferring active parish work at Conewago and elsewhere.

**REV. JOSEPH ENDERS, S. J.**

is another name that will never be forgotten at Conewago. He was pastor here from 1818 and again from 1837 to 1838, the year of his death. Under his directing genius, the church was enlarged in 1850 by the addition of a transept and apse, care being taken to preserve the original stone church, which now forms the nave. The building was consecrated August 15, 1851 by Bishop Francis Kendrick. The steeples, 80’ in height, and the marble altar were added later by Father Enders.

**THE PAINTINGS**

of the church are its pride and joy. The fresco of the Assumption on the nave ceiling was done in 1845 by Gebhart. The main altar piece, the Apparition of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary (with Blessed Claude de la Colombiere, her spiritual adviser) by Costagall was added in 1854. The magnificent frescoes on the apse and transept ceilings, depicting the love of the Sacred Heart for mankind, are the work of Franz Stecher, of Austria, done by him in 1851. He also painted the Death of St. Francis Xavier at that saint’s altar, and the Nativity and the Crucifixion on the end walls of the transept. Lorenzo G. Scattaglia decorated the church in 1887. The beautiful Munich windows were installed soon after the turn of the century. The double row in the nave remind one of the time when there was a large gallery on either side wall of the church.

**THE JESUITS DEPARTED**

in June, 1901, at the insistence of their superiors in Rome. At that time it was considered best that they leave all fully established parishes in America to the care of the diocesan clergy, unless an institution of learning was con-
nected with the parish. Since the time of Father Pellentz there were plans to locate the Jesuit Scholasticate or even the Novitate here. Those in favor of having the former in Maryland won the day and Woodstock became the Scholasticate while the Novitate is now at Wernersville. At Conewago the Society of Jesus left a noble memorial of zeal, achievement and apostolic labor over a period of two centuries which can never be forgotten. Priests of the diocese of Harrisburg took up the work of their respected predecessors and have continued to add to the physical and spiritual foundation.

EDUCATION

in the Colonies and in the early years of the Republic was fostered almost exclusively by religious denominations. Father Brosius, the learned tutor of Prince Gallitzin, conducted a school here about 1800. It was continued under the care of the Conewago Fathers. At various times it was known as the Conewago Latin school. In the village of Irishtown a large brick school building was dedicated to St. Peter Canisius in 1867 and the school at Mt. Rock was founded about the same time. Two school houses stood in front of the church for many years. The Rev. Eugene Haltemeier built a stone combination school and hall beside the rectory in 1902. The Sisters of St. Joseph from their Academy in McSherrystown had succeeded to the teaching assignment and they staffed the schools. Now they reside in their convent in Edge Grove. In 1932, the Rev. John F. O’Donnell closed the village schools at Irishtown and Mt. Rock and converted the hall into classrooms and provided a six room school house. A bus was secured to transport the children from the outlying districts. In 1956 the school roll numbered 226 children. Since 1940, Conewago has been one of the parishes in the district operating the Delone Catholic High School at McSherrystown for the secondary education of its children.

THE PARISH HALL

was built in 1954. The men of the congregation transported many tons of cut stone from century-old barns in the vicinity so that the exterior would blend in with the older buildings. It affords ample space for the many social gatherings of the congregation. The church vestibule was added in 1955 and the shrine of the Sacred Heart was donated by Father Carl Brady, a native son, in 1966.

THE CEMETERY

at the rear of the church covers about seven acres and is one of the oldest west of the Susquehanna. At first burials were made near the Mass House, but the present cemetery was opened in 1752 to receive the body of Dudley Digges who died in a land dispute. The oldest existing marker is that of the renowned Safford Lilly who died in 1758. He came from Bristol, England, in 1729 to Philadelphia, and hearing of a Catholic settlement at Conewago moved here

in 1730. His land once included the site of Irishtown and his home, “Eden”, was along the Conewago. One of the frequently visited graves is that of Father Francis Xavier Demeckere, S.J., the saintly and scholarly priest who labored here from 1852 until his death in 1879. His great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament was evidenced in the well-attended Corpus Christi processions during his lifetime. Near his grave is that of Baron de Beelen-Berthoff, the benefactor of Conewago, who died in 1804.

THE CHAPEL OF RELICS

is the small oratory one enters from the church near the vestibule. Here Mass is celebrated on week days and the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. Here, too, the relics of many saints are preserved, with that of the True Cross at the altar. At the side altars of the church, under their respective statues, are the relics of the four Jesuit Saints, Ignatius, Aloysius, Francis Xavier and Peter Claver in beautiful old reliquaries brought from Europe.

AS THE MOTHER CHURCH

of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna, Conewago numbers among her spiritual daughters the thriving parishes of Hanover, McSherrystown, Littlestown, New Oxford, Paradise, Gettysburg, York, Carlisle, Buchanan Valley, Chambersburg, Loretto and countless mission stations in Colonial times. To the Jesuits, Benedictines, Augustinians and the diocesan clergy, including the Rt. Rev. John Timon, Bishop of Buffalo, it has given dozens of its young men, and to many religious communities a large representation of its young women. To the American nation, it has generously offered its sons in every conflict and crisis, from the Revolutionary war until the present. In every phase of life, this parish has contributed its share to God and country.

HERE AT CONEWAGO

one looks back over two centuries of fraternal peace undisturbed by bigotry or malice; here the American way of life has been typically developed over the years; here a religious people cherish and exemplify the faith of their fathers; here lives and reigns, in his first parish home in America, the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The church is open daily from 7 A.M. to 6 P.M. Visitors are always welcome. For group visits, write The Pastor, SACRED HEART SHRINE, R. 4, HANOVER, PA.
Rev. Joseph Zwinge,
Loyola College,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Reverend Father:

Mr. Joseph I. Small has requested me to write you concerning Fire Insurance on the Farm owned by the Jesuit Fathers and tenanted by him. I would suggest that you insure the Buildings on said Farm in the two leading Mutual Fire Insurance Companies of Adams County, the "Adams County Mutual Fire Insurance Company" and the "Gettysburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company". The rates in both Companies are the same and the following amounts of Insurance on your Farm would cost as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dwelling</th>
<th>Amount (Frame Slate)</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Premium Note</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer House</td>
<td>$1500.00</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$105.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn</td>
<td>500.00 Brick Shingle</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagon Shed &amp; Corn Cribs</td>
<td>$2000.00 Frame Shingle</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Premium Note</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$510.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would place the Insurance jointly in the 2 Companies 1/2 in each Company. The above amount would be the cost and this has always been sufficient to pay all losses and expenses of both Companies and leave them each a surplus of about $12,000.00 &c in Treasury, however, they could assess you on the Premium Note if occasion demanded but neither Company has ever had an assessment in its history and the Adams County is over 50 years
old and the Gettysburg Mutual about 15 years old. If you desire to take out Insurance in these Companies, kindly advise me and I will prepare applications and forward them to you for your signature and return to me for the purpose of issuing the Policies. If you conclude to insure, please let me know the correct name in which Policies are to be made and the amounts you desire on each item. I neglected to put any amount on Farm Produce and if you desire Insurance on this item, kindly let me know the amount.

I might add that most of the Farms in this section are insured in this Company. Some of the names of Farmers are among the following with some of which you may be familiar:

Harry J. Smith
Leo A. Sneeringer Estate
Sisters of St. Joseph of McSherrystown
James A. Murren
Mary C. Poist (Formerly John A. Poist formerly Chapel Farm)
Estella A. Keffer (Formerly John A. Poist Farm)
L. C. Hoke
John Ditzler
Curtis C. Rebert

Awaiting your further favors, I am,

Very truly yours,

[J. Preto Smith]

of F.V. Topper & Company

I enclose application of Adams County Mutual for your inspection.
For archives
Mr. Gallagher
WHEREAS The St. Joseph's College in the City of Philadelphia is the owner of certain lands, tenements and hereditaments in Towanda Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, and in Eaglessmere Borough, Sullivan County, Pennsylvania; and whereas the rents due therefrom have not been received by the owner.

NOW THEREFORE, KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, the officers of said The St. Joseph's College in the City of Philadelphia, for us and our successors, have made, constituted and appointed, and by virtue hereof do make, constitute and appoint Reverend Joseph Zwinge S. J., our true and lawful Attorney for us, and in our name and to our use, to demand, recover and receive all and singular the sum or sums of money now due, payable and coming unto us or our successors by virtue of the amounts of rent due by and from the tenants upon our properties in Towanda Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, or collected by any person or persons from them or any of them, hereby giving and granting to our said Attorney full power and authority to institute and pursue unto final judgment and execution any process or suit, processes or suits which our said Attorney shall deem expedient; and in such suit or suits, process or processes for us to appear and us to represent before any court or courts having jurisdiction therein to plead for us; and all stipulations or other requisites in any such suit or process, in our name and behalf to make, allow and establish; and at his discretion to compromise in any way whatsoever any matter in dispute; and of all receipts, due acquittance in our name and stead, as our deed or deeds, to make, seal and deliver, hereby ratifying and confirming whatsoever our said Attorney may lawfully do by virtue hereof in the premises.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said The St. Joseph's College in the City of Philadelphia has caused its common seal to be affixed this Twenty Ninth day of January A. D. 1904.

Attest

Charles J. Jones, S. J.
President

Secretary
The St. Joseph's College

Dr. Joseph

St. George St.
20 acre Woodlot in Manheim now Penn Township
York Co. Pa. Sold, all deed within

Rev. Joseph Zwinge, S. J.,
Loyola College,
Calvert & Madison Sts.,
Baltimore, Md.
Deed

Rev. Lewis Barth

To The

Rev. Francis Reade

As for 20 # 51 of Land, district
Measure in Manor Township York County

$1.33

Lot was sold to Robert Martin Jan 7 1921 $2000
This Indenture

Made this ___________ day of ___________ 187____ in the County and State of ___________, in Witness Whereof the said

Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and ___________ in consideration of the Sum of ___________, and in consideration of the Sum of ___________, the said

FRANCIS REALE

AND the said

Lewis Reale

Heirs and Assigns forever, and in Witness Whereof the said ___________, doth hereunto Set his Hand and Seal this ___________ day of ___________, One Thousand Eight Hundred and ___________, in full for the Consideration money above mentioned.

Received of the above named Francis Reale the sum of ___________ hundred and ___________ dollars together with ___________ dollars Stock in ___________ in full for the Considerations money above mentioned.

Witnesse present:

Joseph D. "Doc" Godfrey

Lewis Reale

This day 187____ in the county of ___________, State of ___________, in the presence of

John P. Harris

John F. Shibley

Received of the above named Francis Reale the sum of ___________ hundred and ___________ dollars together with ___________ dollars Stock in ___________ in full for the Considerations money above mentioned.

Witnesse present:

Joseph D. "Doc" Godfrey

Lewis Reale

This day 187____ in the county of ___________, State of ___________, in the presence of

John P. Harris

John F. Shibley
Recorded in the office for Recording of Deeds in and for the County of York in Book W. 211, page 4885.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said office at York this 24th Day of June, 1811.

[Signature]
THIS DEED made this 16th day of March in the year one thousand nine hundred and three, by and between PATRICK F. HEALY, of the City of New York, State of New York, of the first part, and THE SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, a body corporate, duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, of the second or other part.

WITNESSETH that, in consideration of the sum of FIVE DOLLARS in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said PATRICK F. HEALY doth hereby grant, convey and assign unto THE SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, its successors and assigns, all that tract of land situate and lying in the township of Manheim, now believed to be the Township of Penn, in the County of York, state of Pennsylvania, and described as follows:

BEGINNING at stones set in the line of the large Tract, whereof the premises hereby granted is a part, and a corner of a twenty feet wide lane leading into the great Road, then South eighty-seven degrees and three quarters East fifty-eight perches and five tenths to a black oak, the corner of the said large Tract; thence South twenty-eight degrees and six-tenths to stones set for a corner; thence South seventy-four degrees and three-quarters West forty perches to stones set for a corner of the land sold to Stark and Long; thence along the said Stark and Long's Land North sixteen degrees West forty perches to stones, another corner of the said Stark and Long's Land; thence still by the said Stark and Long's Land South seventy-four degrees and three-quarters West twenty-nine perches to the said twenty feet Lane; thence along the said Lane North sixteen degrees West forty perches and six-tenths to the place of beginning, containing twenty Acres and fifty-one Perches of land, strict measure, be the same more or less, (being a part of a large tract of land, containing two hundred and eighty-seven acres, and one hundred and thirty-seven perches, and allowance, which by letters patent, bearing date the fourteenth day of November, A. D. 1810, were granted to John Steinmetz, Sarah Brinton, Elizabeth Steinmetz and Daniel Steinmetz, in fee simple, in equal fourth parts in right of their father
John Steinmetz, deceased) together with all and singular the ways, waters, water courses, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, either in law or in equity, of the said party of the first part of in, to, or out of the same, and together with the common use and privileges of the aforesaid Lane with or without horses, cattle and carriages, at all times hereafter forever; and being the same tract of land which, by the will of Francis Ignatius Neale, passed to William McSherry, Thomas Mulledy and Joseph Carbery, and the survivors of them, the said Thomas Mulledy being the last survivor; and by the will of Thomas Mulledy was devised to James Curley, William F. Clarke and Charles H. Stonestreet, and the survivors of them, said William F. Clarke being the last survivor; and by the will of William F. Clarke was devised to Robert W. Brady, Patrick F. Healy and Charles K. Jenkins, and the survivors of them, said Patrick F. Healy being the last survivor. (Together with all the right, title and interest of the said grantor in and to any other property of any and every description situate and lying in the County of York aforesaid.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described property together with the buildings and improvements thereupon, and the rights and appurtenances thereto belonging or appertaining unto THE SAINT JOSEPH’S COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, its successors and assigns, in fee simple.

AND the said PATRICK F. HEALY doth hereby covenant that he will warrant specially the property granted, and that he will execute such further assurances of the same as may be requisite.

WITNESS the hand and seal of the said Grantor.

Test:

[Signature]

Patrick F. Healy

[Seal]
STATE OF NEW YORK, CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, TO WIT:

On this 4th day of March A.D. 1904 before me personally came PATRICK P. HEALY to me personally known to be the same person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same.

[Signature]

J. M. Targis
Notary Public
N.Y.C.

I, THOMAS L. HAMILTON, Clerk of the County of New York, and also Clerk of the Supreme Court for the said County, the same being a Court of Record, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, That

[Signature]

Joseph Targis

whose name is subscribed to the Certificate of the proof or acknowledgment of the annexed instrument, and thereon written, was, at the time of taking such proof or acknowledgment, a Notary Public in and for the County of New York, dwelling in the said County, commissioned and sworn, and duly authorized to take the same. And further that I am well acquainted with the handwriting of such Notary, and verily believe that the signature to the said certificate of proof or acknowledgment is genuine.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Court and County, the 4th day of March 1904.

[Signature]

Thos. L. Hamilton
Clerk.

Dear Mr. Quincey,

Mr. John Devine & Mr. Brady went to see the wood lot. Mr. John T. says it agrees with the 5th draught. He thinks it is worth about $25. per acre. Mr. James Devine showed the draught with list of deeds to Mr. Ehrhart, Att'y in Hanover. So he can "look up title"

I shall have the map ready about 20th inst. I can come to see you on an excursion which goes 234 if that will suit. If not, please let me know.

Very respectfully yr. humble servant.

J. E. Smith.

Ehrhart did nothing.

York, Pa., Feb. 19th, 1904

Received from Joseph Byrns, Loyola College, Baltimore, Md.

Five 30 Dollars, for recording of two deeds to the Saint Joseph's College in the City of Phila.

53/100

E. J. Bentz

Recorder.
John Steinmetz eral
To
The Rev Lewis Bath
and the others from
Patrick F. Healy
To
The Saint Joseph's College of in the City of
Philadelphia.
A Tract of a part of wood Land situate in Manheim Township, York County, surveyed and laid off from a Larger Tract the 18th of Dec. 1810. At the Request of John H. Brinton for the use of Rev. Lewis Barth who on this 19th day of June A.D. 1811 conveyed the same to the Rev. Francis Peale of George Town.

[Signature]

[Signature]
Draught
Rev.
Francis Neale
as to 20 Y 31 Sh. Measure
$220