

## CHAPTER XVII.

*Father Henry McHugh, Pastor-Rector for Almost Twenty-three Years, 1873-95.*

Father Henry McHugh, now the venerable rector of St. Agnes' Church, Soho, who had been born and raised in the congregation, and had been baptized by Father Gallitzin, succeeded Father Gallagher on January 18, 1873.

Father McHugh was well and favorably known by the people of St. Bartholomew's, and knew them better than any other priest who had ever received the appointment of pastor; and he assumed control, probably under the most auspicious conditions of any priest who has ever been in Wilmore. It is equally true that no priest had ever before been compelled to go through two long-protracted periods of financial depression and business stagnation, as he, during his long pastorate, which rendered it absolutely impossible to accomplish much that he otherwise might have done. The church was roofed and frescoed; heaters were introduced into it; the old spire which had become dangerous was taken down and replaced by a far better one; a new stable followed.

*The Building of the Present Rectory.*

The first pastoral residence having become considerably dilapidated, in the early part of 1886, a movement was projected by the pastor to build a more modern pastoral residence, and M. J. Waltz, of Chest Springs, this county, a builder of considerable experience, was selected to draw up a plan for a new building.

To aid in the work of providing means to erect a suitable building the following Advisory Committee was selected by the pastor: William Doran, Michael Tully, Henry Hartman, Thomas Kinney, John Topper, Valentine Cramer, Philip Beiter, Charles N. Crouse, James McDunn, Peter McGough, James D. Plummer.

The Permanent Building Committee was: John Itell, P. M. Brown, C. A. Dimond, and J. C. Noel.

The contract with Mr. Waltz was made on February 21, 1886, the price agreed upon having been \$4,500.

The present commodious and ornate rectory is the result.

*The New Cemetery.*

The old cemetery having become pretty well filled, and besides being a very undesirable place for a cemetery, on October 20, 1888, a plot of ground containing three acres 154 perches was