

voice, calling him by name to come back, could be heard. He lingered under most trying circumstances until the 11th of January 1867, when he died at the age of thirty-six years, and was buried in St. Joseph's cemetery.

Father Columban Messner was, therefore, the first priest who attended the Mornington mission. He made regular visitations and said Mass in a house which still stands, and which was occupied, until quite recently, by Mrs. Joseph Vollmer. Early in the forties a missionary band of German Jesuit fathers was stationed at St. Agatha. It was from that noble band of self-sacrificing men that Father Schneider went forth on foot to labor in the Huron tract. It was from St. Agatha that Father Rupert Ebner, S. J., walked to say Mass in the log hut of John Nauer for the faithful of North Mornington. This he did in 1849, and then again in 1853. It was from St. Agatha too, that Father Caveng, another Jesuit father, came to Mornington in 1848. He was the first priest who visited this district.

There is a tradition among the veteran pioneers that this good missionary father fell into the hands of ruffians and who miraculously made good his escape, but this tradition does not seem to be well founded.

NAME AND ORIGIN

During the first few years the settlement was without a name, and the question, "What shall we call it?" arose among the colonists.