

CHAPTER II.

The First Choir

DESCRIPTION OF FIRST CHURCH—SISTINE MADONNA
—SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

St. Basil's Choir was organized by Father Vincent (who himself possessed an exceptionally fine tenor voice), in 1856, the year of the foundation of the parish. For about \$800.00 he purchased an organ of one manual, two manual instruments being rare in those days. Father Vincent was fortunate in securing the services as organist, of a clever young musician named Sebastian Klingler, a native of Holland. The first day he presided at the organ proved beyond question that Father Vincent had made a good choice. Mr. Klingler had a wonderful gift of improvisation, and the charm of his playing was felt by choir and congregation.

Father Vincent selected a magnificent quartette:—Mrs. Klingler, wife of the organ-