

worship of God. He adds, in his letter: "While this temple is in no way to be likened to that of Solomon, yet was our joy and thankfulness as great as that of Solomon, when he with all of Israel consecrated his temple." On the Tuesday following, the people were organized as an independent congregation of the Swiss Reformed church. J. J. Tschudy was elected president, and a board of capable trustees was selected. Arrangements were made for religious and secular teaching of the children in the German language, which after five years of almost total intermission was found to be a difficult task. Streissguth writes: "During the first hours of my labors as a teacher, I hardly realized that the flock around me were Christian children, and not wild heathen." But the zeal of the young missionary was equal to the occasion, and enthusiasm and tact succeeded in bringing order into the minds of his pupils, and restoring the knowledge of religious truth in the minds of young and old.

The intrepid pastor had only his own strength to support him in his work. There was no conference, no synod, no general assembly, to aid or instruct him. He was as much a pioneer, thrown upon his own resources, as in their way were the colonists. At this time (1850), the congregation numbered sixty-four members, all heads of families except two or three. The pastor's duties were to hold service each Sunday morning, and religious instruction in the afternoon; during the week, there was instruction in reading and writing. He visited all of the families regularly, and in cases of sickness often served both as physician and pastor. As a missionary he had received the usual medical training. In short, he was a typical missionary, who aimed to perform the work of his Master thoroughly and well. At this time a branch Swiss colony, five miles distant, called Biltén, was founded. Streissguth also went to that place every four weeks, to preach and instruct. For the first year of his labor, and for his expenses of passage from Switzerland, he received from the council of the parishes in old Glarus two hundred dollars. For the second year, the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars was