

HENRY BERGER (1852); installed in mid-June, 1852

St. Peter's Cathedral, R.C. (Rt. Rev. John McGill, Bishop)
Richmond, Virginia

"Great Church Organ," *The (Baltimore, Md.) Sun* 31, no. 24 (Saturday, June 12, 1852): 1.

Great Church Organ.—Some time since, the Rt. Rev. John McGill, D. D., and Bishop of the Catholic Church of the Diocese of Richmond, visited this city for the purpose of obtaining a grand organ for the magnificent Cathedral of that city.—After the necessary arrangements, a contract was entered into with Mr. Henry Berger, of South Frederick street, for the manufacture of a powerful instrument, which after continued application of mechanical skill, aided by the benefit of valued experience, was finished on Thursday. It was erected in the principal hall of Mr. Berger's factory, and after a full and thorough trial by the celebrated organists of Baltimore and other cities, the workmen had the proud satisfaction of having it pronounced an admirable instrument, exceedingly well voiced, and constructed in a durable manner; whilst its exterior will constitute an ornament in the sanctuary for which it is intended. The music is contained in a case of imitation oak, measuring 13 feet in width, 7 feet in depth, and 16 feet high. The following enumeration of its qualities and capacity will be comprehended and admired by the accomplished organist:

Two rows of keys, with swell and pedal, and 18 stops. The great organ is from C to F, in alt., and contains the following stops—open diapason, stop diapason, (bass,) stop diapason (treble,) principal, fifteenth, twelfth, trumpet and double stop diapason.

The swell organ scale is from F to F, in alt., with 64 keys, with the following stops: Open diapason, dulciana, stop diapason, flute, hautboy, swell bass, and stop diapason. The pedal organ contains double stop diapason, and violoncello. There are also couplers for great and swell organ, and for the pedal and great organ, and an alarm. All the stops have been pronounced very fine, the tones being full, clear, and mellow, though strong, whilst the deep rumbling tones of the bass respond to the touch with a grand effect, and completing the melody to the satisfaction of the most sensitive ear.—The instrumental stops, such as the trumpet, flute, hautboy, and violoncello have been greatly admired. Their voices are sweet, and no one can question their accuracy. The imitations seem perfect. The instrument was shipped yesterday, and when it is put up in the Cathedral by the builder, the congregation and choir especially, will doubtless be much gratified.