

## HENRY BERGER (1852); “exhibition” in the factory, Wednesday, August 18, 1852

St. Peter’s Church, R.C. (Rev. Francis Devlin, Pastor)  
Portsmouth, Virginia

[Excerpt from:] “Berger’s Organ Factory,” *The (Baltimore, Md.) Sun* 31, no. 81 (Thursday, August 19, 1852): 1.

There was an exhibition yesterday in the factory of a magnificent organ intended for St. Peter’s Catholic Church, at Portsmouth, Va., Rev. Francis Devlin, pastor, the case of which measures 14 feet in height, 8½ feet in width and 6½ feet in depth, and is in the Gothic style, elaborately adorned with carved work. It is supplied with two rows of keys, with pedal and small organ, and contains the following stops:—Open diapason, stop diapason bass, stop diapason treble, principal, fifteenth, twelfth, swell bass, dulciana, flute, hautboy, pedal, open diapason, and two couplers. The instrument was thoroughly tried by several well-known organists, all of whom spoke highly of its general powers and good performance. The voicing of the instrumental stops is so perfect that a very delicate ear would not be apt to tell them from the real instrument. The chorus is exceedingly fine, the various stops blending so as to produce one perfectly symmetrical edifice of harmony. The instrument attracts attention by its grand and majestic melodies, every note being as prompt, round and as well defined as the notes of any band instrument. It will be forwarded to Portsmouth shortly and erected in the church by Mr. Berger himself, who will develop its power to the admirable choir which it is intended to accompany. Its peculiar location in “St. Pauls,” and its elegance of finish, will add to the interior view of that new sanctuary.