

## A GREAT CATHEDRAL.

### Dedication of a New Church Building at Sacramento.

Sacramento, June 30th — The Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Sacrament was dedicated to-day with imposing ceremonies. Early trains from neighboring towns and cities brought large crowds of visitors to witness the services. The Cathedral is the richest and most imposing church edifice on the Pacific Coast, and has been in course of construction for over three years. The structure is one of the features of the city, and will always command attention from visitors. On entering through the vestibule from Eleventh Street a splendid sweep of space is presented before the eye reaches the sanctuary. For the first time it is not difficult to realize the vastness of the structure, a fact that strikes the visitor even before his attention directs itself to the beauty of the place. Whether the glance is turned above, around or straight ahead, the thought is irresistible that compared with the ordinary church the auditorium is vast. Two hundred feet away is the pulpit, directly at the right of the sanctuary, from which it is reached by a set of winding stairs. As far distant in secluded alcoves, formed by enormous pillars, are the gilded white altars of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph on either side of and without the sanctuary. Nearly as far also are the altar of St. Patrick and the Sacred Head, each carrying statues and appropriately decorated. Farther on still is the main altar against the sanctuary wall, bright with beautiful flowers and exotics, and rich in its sacred decorations of candelabra and minor statuary. Far above are panels of arched ceiling, set in frames of varied fresco, while in the middle of the upper space the great dome opens up, emphasizing the notion of vastness, and imparting a relief to the whole auditorium that is decidedly agreeable. A sea of pews, which, save for broad aisles in the middle and down the sides, cover the floor, still further carries out the original impression. Far away and above the sunlight casts its softened glare into the sanctuary through three memorial windows of stained glass, emblematic of three great events in the life on earth of the Savior — the Nativity, the Last Supper and the Ascension. The entire floor, transept and nave, is open to the sanctuary, and it is calculated that 5000 persons could congregate upon it, although the actual seating capacity is not intended for more than 1900. The prevailing color of the beautiful interior frescoing is cathedral blue. The dome decorations impart direct interest to that feature of the interior, and are all dependent upon some sacred incident or suggestion of holy writers. The stained-glass windows are magnificent pieces of art work; and were presented by A. Coolot and Captain Dwyer of this city, Daniel McCarthy of Brighton, Mrs. E. B. Crocker of this city, Miss Birdie Fair and Miss Tessie Fair of San Francisco, St. Mary's parish of Virginia City, Nev., Agnes Bemerly of Woodland, Maud Kigney of Sacramento, and Mrs. James



Kasebirt of Sacramento. But the art features of the church will not stop at stained-glass windows. There are now in course of completion in Borne four large oil paintings, representing events in Bible history, which will adorn the walls of the transept in full view from the auditorium. David Lubin of this city has contributed to the collection a picture of "The Archangel Michael Crushing Satan." The work is a copy of the celebrated painting in the Church of the Capuchins at Rome. A Franciscan father living in the southern portion of the state is engaged in painting the "Twelve Stations" in oil. The interesting ceremony of dedication commenced with masses at 5 o'clock. Regular services began about noon, when the exterior of the building was sprinkled and blessed by Bishop Manogue, assisted by local and visiting clergy. Following this was a solemn Pontifical High Mass. Bishop Manogue acted as celebrant, Rev. Father Grace, deacon, Rev. Father Haults, subdeacon, Very Rev. Father Lynch, assistant, Father Hines of Woodland, master of ceremonies. Rev. Father Bouchard preached an eloquent sermon. The Young Men's Institute of this city was present, attended by representatives of the institutes from Marysville and Nevada City. They were in the parade, besides, the local Italian military company and a brass band. Vesper services were sung in the evening. The great building was filled to overflowing during the services. The interior of the cathedral was beautifully decorated with palms and flowers. During the dedicatory services a select choir of thirty voices furnished music. Upon opening the doors the crush was so great that a number of ladies and children fainted.

