

Church in the Council of Trent which commenced its sessions in December 1545. Considerable discussion took place in connection with it, some of the learned Divines present expressing very strong objections. This was specially the case with Catherinus Bishop of Minori, near Naples. He made an energetic protest against passing the canon. His words are these. "Consider the utter uncertainty that you are introducing into all the sacraments of our Church if you say that the priest must have the intention of doing that which the Church does, or which the Church would have to be done. Take the case, in the first instance, of a priest who has a Parish of some 4,000 or 5,000 souls under him. The people bring their children to him to be baptized, but if he be a bad priest and utterly thoughtless and without intention in the sacramental act, then they will remain unbaptized; the penitents too, that go to him for confession and absolution will remain unabsolved of sin; and a similar invalidity will attach also to his sacrifice of the mass. Nor this alone; but the uncertainty must extend further to the case of *ministerial orders*. For, supposing the candidate for ordination to have been baptized by a priest who had not a thought of doing the thing seriously, and so imparting the proper sacramental grace, then that man will not have been baptized, and consequently even though the three ordaining Bishops may, when putting their hands upon him, really *intend* to ordain him, yet the fact of his non-baptism, will vitiate his ordination,