

Some thoughts about the Consecration

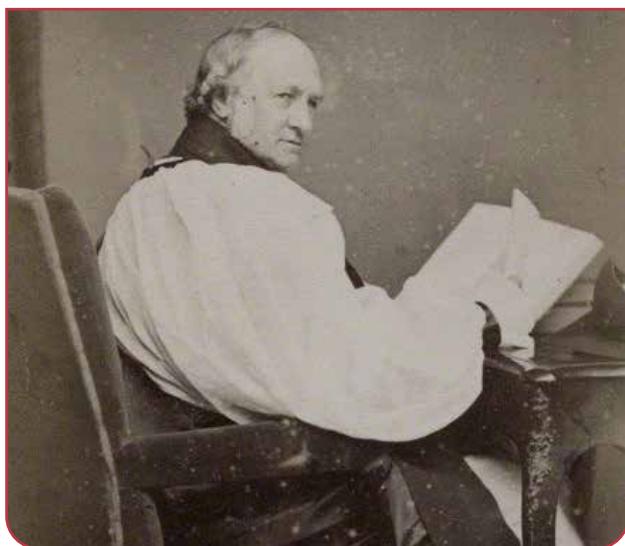
We read in Caulfield's account that the choir and procession entered singing Psalm 24.

Why do you think this Psalm was chosen? Here it is

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

(You will find a modern translation of this and the other Bible readings referred to at www.biblegateway.com/)

The preacher was 'the Lord Primate' - the Archbishop of Armagh - the Most Reverend Marcus Gervais Beresford, shown here.



He preached from Psalm 133. If you were preaching or making a speech based on Psalm 133 on an occasion like that, what would you say? Here it is:

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

There was another Service in the afternoon - Evensong - when the preacher was the Right Reverend William Connor Magee, who was Bishop of Peterborough.

Why do you think the Bishop of Peterborough in England might have been invited to preach on that occasion? Well, he was born in Cork. His father was a minor canon in the old Cathedral and he himself was Dean of Cork from 1864 to 1868, the period during which a lot of the building of the new cathedral was happening.

He preached on Ezekiel 14.22 and 23.
What do you think was concerning him?
Here it is:

Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, both sons and daughters: behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings: and ye shall be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it.

And they shall comfort you, when ye see their ways and their doings: and ye shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it, saith the Lord God.