

renewed connection after so many years  
interval with Cathedral service is very  
pleasant. Duty only one sermon in  
the year - & incidentally perhaps a  
little more presence at meetings of a  
Church character in Hereford, &c. -  
It was somewhat of a surprise - not  
wholly so - for I had been much more  
surprised (that was a surprise indeed -  
one of the very greatest I ever had)  
when the Bishop asked me to preach  
at his Ordination at Hereford at Xmas -  
- but my wife was quite taken aback  
by it - & to both of us it seems like a  
dream. I went yesterday to be "collated"  
in due form - my "installation" will  
take place at the Dean's convenience.  
- In point of long standing in the Dis-  
cise, I am so near the top of the tree,

being now in my 52<sup>nd</sup> year of service  
(without intermission except 5 years  
in Tho'sten Cathedral) that perhaps,  
if I had never had such an offer, it  
might have seemed intentional - & how  
ever obscure I have been (especially so,  
except for being asked to preach in the Ca-  
thedral like those of late years) I am not  
conscious of having given offence - so there  
is not much to be surprised at. - Not  
quite enough about this - only I know  
your kindness will lead you to take an  
interest in it. - I am not sure I ever  
taunted you (more shame if I have not)  
for your most kind & friendly advice as  
to the Probate Duty. It was of very  
material service, giving me just the legal  
information I wanted, to decline becom-  
ing a party to what I must think a  
shuffling transaction, and so enforcing