



Extract from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

MYROSS, a parish, in the Eastern Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 6 miles (S. W. by W.) from Ross; containing, with the village of Union-Hall, (which see) 3459 inhabitants. Here was formerly the abbey of Maure, or of the Clear Spring, founded in 1172 by Dermod McCormac McCarthy, King of Desmond, for Cistercian monks; the foundations of the buildings, and the burial-ground, may be traced at Carrigiliky. The parish forms an obtuse peninsula between Castlehaven and the harbour of Glandore, having the main ocean to the south; it comprises 3319 statute acres, as apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £3333 per annum. The surface is very uneven, but the land in general is fertile, producing excellent crops of corn, flax, and potatoes; the more elevated parts, however, afford only scanty pasturage for cattle; there is very little waste or bog: near the centre of the parish are some interesting lakes. Agriculture is much improving, particularly near Brade and Myross Wood, the rector having introduced the most improved implements. The soil is generally shallow, resting upon a substratum of schist, in some places rising into hills of considerable elevation. Considerable efforts are now being made to work the slate more efficiently: many of the inhabitants are engaged in the fishery. A fair for cattle is held on Holy Thursday. **Myross Wood** (*Built by the Rev Arthur Herbert, bought by Lord Kingston in 1820 and later acquired by John Sealy Townsend [507] sometime between 1837 and 1846*), the demesne of F. H. Copinger, Esq., is very large, extending northward to the Leap, and affording the best woodland in the barony; Clontaff is the residence of R. Townsend (*Richard Mellifont Townsend [236]*), Esq.; Bawnlahan, of Major Powell (*father of Rev Francis Powell who married Caroline Townsend [5B20]*); Brade (Braad), of the Rev. E. P. Thompson (*Braad formerly belonged to Philip Townsend [500] and then his son Richard [501]*); Union Hall, of Capt. Somerville*; Ballincolla, of Capt. Lyster; and Rock Cottage, of J. French, Esq. The living is a rectory and vicarage, in the diocese of Ross, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £500. The church is a very handsome cruciform edifice, with a tower: it occupies a gentle eminence, near the western termination of Glandore harbour, having been erected on that new site in 1827, at a cost of £900, a gift from the late Board of First Fruits, at which time this living was separated from those of Kilmacabea and

Kilfaughnabeg: the present situation was adopted from its contiguity to the village of Union Hall. The parochial schools, which are aided by the incumbent, who also supports a Sunday school, are situated in Union-Hall, as also is a national school for females; and about 170 children are educated in three private schools. At Rock cottage, now the residence of J. French, Esq., Dean Swift wrote his poem of "Carberiae Rupes."

** This might be the same person as Captain Philip Somerville who is shown in 'An Officer of the Long Parliament' living at The Prairie, Schull. If this is the case there are connections here with Henrietta [242], Anna [408] and Maria [5D07].*

Captain Henry Townsend RN [215] - Transcript of Will

The National Archives PCC Will Index and PROB 11 microfilms at the Family Records Centre, London.

Henry Townsend, Esquire, of Whitecliff, Isle of Purbeck, Dorset
Dated: 30 December 1785

- Helena (niece) daughter of Reverend Arthur Herbert and Helena his wife, both deceased: £300. (Daughter of Helena Townsend [218])
- Arthur (nephew) son of Reverend Arthur Herbert and Helena his wife, both deceased: £200. . (Son of Helena Townsend [218])
- Richard Townsend Herbert, Esquire of Killarney, Ireland (nephew): gold stopwatch chain and seals
- Richard Boyle Townsend, Esquire (nephew): horizontal gold repeating watch chain and seals. (Richard Boyle Townsend [219])
- William Moody of Bathampton, Wiltshire: household goods at Whitecliff and plate china etc not for his use but in trust to dispose and convert it into money for Helena Herbert (niece).
- Helena (niece) wife of William Moody: £100 'as a token of my regard and friendship'
- John Townsend (brother), Esquire, Barrister at Law, of Shepparton, County Cork: rents from my tenants in Ireland. (John Townsend [214])

All legacies to be paid in 6 months. John Townsend (brother): residue in trust for his children, the interest to accumulate and laid out in the purchase of 3% reduced annuities of Bank of England to be paid when 21 years old.

Executor: William Moody ('good friend')

Witnesses: Thomas Bartlett and Simon Grant, servant to Mr Bartlett

Codicil: 19 February 1788.- John Townsend (brother) of Shepparton, County Cork: all real and personal estate subject to the following:

John Perry: £20. James Talbot, farmer: £10. Elizabeth Talbot: £20. Elizabeth Wells: £20. William Ingram: £10. Timothy Chinchin, apothecary: £20. 'Mary the housekeeper at Whitecliff': £20. John Smith, agent in Ireland: £50. Robert Atkins of Salisbury Street, Westminster: £50.

James Townsend (kinsman) (1) of Lincolns Inn: executor instead of William Moody
Witnesses: John Fentum, Richard Farguhar, Ann Duff

Proved: 29 February 1788 (on oath of James Townsend)

(1) Almost certainly James Townsend [311] who was a barrister.