

Colonel John Townsend [230]



Two Portraits of John by Daniel Maclise July 1826
(John was stationed in Portobello Barracks, Dublin, at the time)





Courtesy of Mrs Anne Cochrane-Townshend

Two Portraits of John by BF Herald dated 1841



In civilian dress, but with regimental forage cap.



In undress shell jacket and regimental waistcoat

**Courtesy of Christopher Bryant, Manchester by the Sea
Massachusetts, USA**

Castletownshend and St Barrahane's Church 2013



The Main Street



The harbour



Extracts from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

ABBEYSTREWRY, a parish, in the Eastern Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER; containing, with part of the market and post-town of Skibbereen, 5570 inhabitants. This parish is situated near the southern coast, on the road from Cork to Baltimore, and is intersected by the river Ilen. It contains 9362 statute acres, as applotted under the tithe act; and is said to derive its name from a religious house, the ruins of which are situated close to the northern bank of the Ilen, one mile west from Skibbereen. About one-third is waste land or bog, the former consisting of rocky elevations which in some parts afford tolerable pasturage; the bog is only of small extent, and peat is becoming somewhat scarce. Generally the system of agriculture is not much improved: the heavy old wooden plough is still used. The substratum is entirely of the schistus formation: there are quarries of excellent slate at Derrygoole, but not much worked; and throughout the parish is found clay-slate for building and repairing the roads. There are numerous large and handsome residences: the principal are Hollybrook, the seat of R. Becher ⁽¹⁾, Esq.; Lakelands, of T. J. Hungerford, Esq.; Coronea, of Mrs. Marmion; Gortnamucalla, of H. Newman, Esq.; Carriganare, of Mrs. Evans; Laghartydawley, of A. McCarthy, Esq.; Mill House, of J. Clark, Esq.; Clover Hill ⁽²⁾, of J. Sweetnam, Esq.; Weston, of D. H. Clarke, Esq.; the glebe-house, the residence of the Rev. R. B. Townsend (*Richard Boyle Townsend [332]*); Abbeyville, the seat of G. Brenham, Esq.; and Rossfort, of J. Ross, Esq.; The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Ross, and in the patronage of J. S. Townsend (*John Sealy Townsend [507]*), Esq., the impropiator of the rectory: the tithes amount to £647, of which £200 is payable to the impropiator, £20 to the vicar (under an appropriation grant of the late Earl of Shannon), and the remainder to the lessees of Col. Townsend (*Colonel John Townsend [230]*). The church, situated in the town of Skibbereen, is a large edifice, in the early English style of architecture, with a lofty square tower at the east end: it was built on a new site in 1827, at an expense of £1200, of which £900 was given by the late Board of First Fruits; and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £180 for its repair. The glebe-house, near the town, was built in 1824, by aid of a gift of £450 and a loan of £50 from the same Board, on a glebe of fifteen acres purchased by the Board and subject to a rent of £13. 7. per annum.

(1) *Becher connections here with Philip Townsend [304] and Barbara Townsend [306].*

(2) *Richard Townsend [310] died here in 1814.*

CASTLE-TOWNSEND, a village, in the parish of CASTLEHAVEN, East Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 4 1/2 miles (E.) from Skibbereen; containing 901 inhabitants. This village, which derives its name from Castle-Townsend, the seat of Col. Townsend (*Colonel John Townsend [230]*), is situated on the north side of the harbour of Castlehaven, and consists of one long street, with a shorter one diverging from it, comprising 150 houses, which are mostly small but well built. It contains the custom-house for the port of Baltimore, and is a coast-guard station in the district of Skibbereen, and a constabulary police station. It occupies a gentle declivity, which descends to the bay, and is well adapted for an extensive trade, but has none, except a little in fish. The harbour, which is half a mile wide, is well sheltered, and vessels of 500 tons' burden can anchor within the haven. There is a ferry to the opposite parish of Myross, affording a ready communication with the village of Union-Hall, on the harbour of Glandore. The fine seat of Castle-Townsend was attacked, in 1690, by about 500 Irish troops in the interest of Jas. II., under young O'Driscoll, who were so warmly received by the proprietor and a garrison of 35 men, that in two assaults they lost 40 of their number, with their commander and two other officers. It was attacked again, soon afterwards, by Mac Fineen O'Driscoll, at the head of 400 men, who, having slain five of its garrison of 30 dragoons compelled the rest to surrender. Col. Culliford subsequently retook the castle, after killing ten and capturing five of the Irish garrison. The elegant church of Castlehaven stands on a bold eminence above the village; and the parochial and infants' schools are also situated here. --See CASTLEHAVEN.


CASTLEHAVEN, a parish, in the East Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 4 1/2 miles (W.) from Skibbereen; containing 5619 inhabitants. This parish, anciently called *Glanbarrahane*, derived that name from a deep rocky glen dedicated to St. Barrahane, and its modern appellation from the castle that protected the haven. This parish is situated on the harbour of the same name, on the southern coast, and contains 10,421 statute acres, as applotted under the tithe act, and valued at £6336 per annum. About two-thirds of the land are cultivated; the remainder is waste, consisting of high barren rocky ridges, or bog. Cultivation is principally performed by the spade, or the heavy old wooden plough. The harbour is more than half a mile in width, and is very secure and well sheltered: it is adapted for vessels drawing 10 feet of

water, which can lie about a quarter of a mile above Reen Head, with the rocks called the Stags in sight. The coast here is bold and picturesque, with several small islands lying off it, the principal of which are Horse Island

and one called Blackrock. The Stags are three very conspicuous rocks lying four miles (S. W. 1/2 W.) from the entrance of the harbour; and Toe head is a broad promontory, between which and Gokane point is a small but well sheltered bay. The principal seats are Castle Townsend, the residence of **Col. Townsend** (*Colonel John Townsend* [230]); Point House, of R. B. Townsend (*Richard Townsend* [221]), Esq.; Drishane, of T. Somerville, Esq. (3) Smithville, of T. Townsend (*Thomas Townsend* [319]), Esq.; and Shepperton, of M. Townsend (*Jonas Morris Townsend* [222]), Esq. The living is a rectory and vicarage, in the diocese of Ross, and in the alternate patronage of the Crown and the Bishop: the tithes amount to £600. The church is a large and very handsome edifice, with a lofty square tower supported by buttresses and crowned with pinnacles: it stands in the demesne of Castle Townsend, and was built in 1827, of hewn fawn-coloured freestone obtained from the quarries on Horse Island, at an expense of £1500, of which £1250 was granted by the late Board of First Fruits, and £250 was contributed by **Col. Townsend** [230]. There is an elegant glebe-house, standing on a glebe of 15 acres. The male and female parochial schools are in Castle Townsend, and are aided by the rector and **Col. Townsend** [230]. An infants' school was established there in 1835, and is supported by subscription. There are also four hedge schools and a Sunday school in the parish. The ancient castle, the walls of which are still visible near the mouth of the harbour, was built by the O'Driscolls, and subsequently belonged to the family of Touchet, of which George Touchet, Lord Audley, who had been governor of Utrecht, and was wounded at Kinsale in 1602, was created Earl of Castlehaven, in 1616: this title was enjoyed through five generations, but became extinct in 1777. Not far distant from the castle are the remains of the old church of Glanbarrahane; and near it is a well, dedicated to St. Barrahane, still frequented.

(3) *Somerville connections here at Elizabeth* [225], *Henrietta* [234], *Jonas Morris* [237], *John* [316] and *Mary* [506].

Confirmation of Arms made by Sir William Betham, Ulster King of Arms

 **COIMISIÚN LÁIMHSCRIBHINNÍ NA hÉIREANN**
(IRISH MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION)
5 ELY PLACE, L.R.
Genealogical Office
The Castle
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
(DUBLIN)

TELEPHONE—
DUBLIN KENNY 51284

25 March, 1946

W. Denny Townsend, Esq., M.D.,
Merton,
Cork.
Co. Cork.

Dear Dr. Townsend,

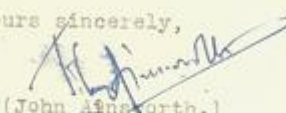
I apologise for delay in looking up our grant books.
The only TOWNSEND grant or confirmation on record here is that made
in 1828 (Grant Book E., p. 18), to;

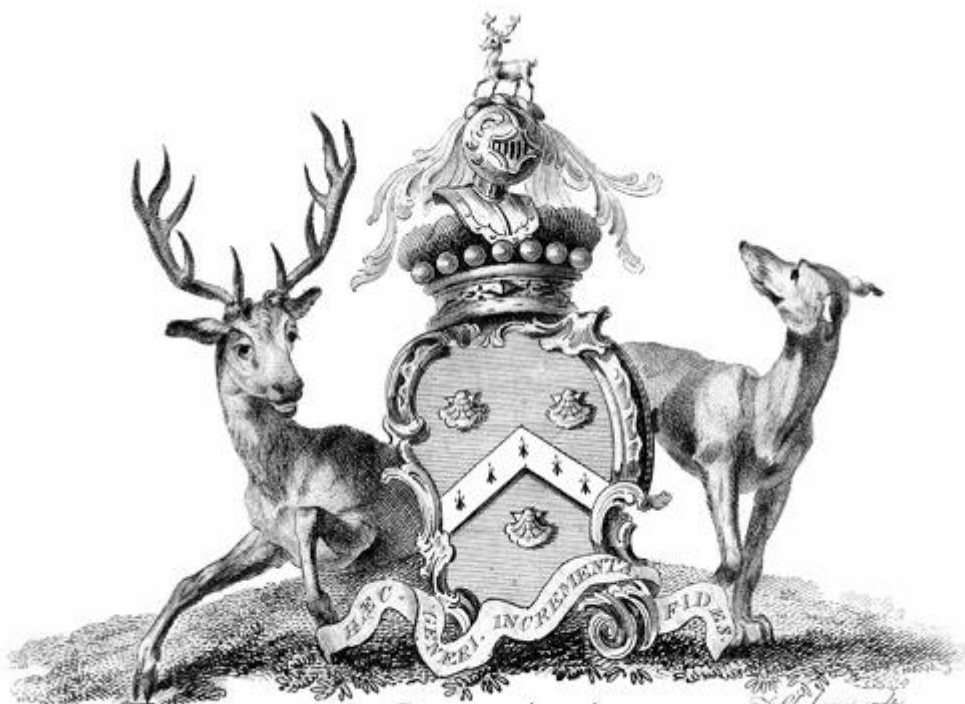
John Townsend of Castle Townsend, Major 14 Lt. Dragoons, and the
other descendants of his father, Richard Boyle Townsend late of
Castle Townsend, esq.;

ARMS. Per chevron ~~arg.~~ & az., a chevron ermine between 3
escallop shells ~~arg.~~ arg.

Crest. On a mount vt. a buck trippant ppr., attired or, charged
on the side with an escallop shell of the last.
(Space for motto has been left blank.)

Belmont You may possibly be able to tell me something about
family papers at Montenotte (Cummins). I believe that Col. A.A. Cummins
presumably the last of that family, died within the last few years,
and that the house now belongs to a Mr. Danckert; but I have no
information about his relationship (if any) to the family. I should
be most grateful for anything that you could tell me.

Yours sincerely,

(John Ainsworth.)



To All and Singular to whom these Presents shall come, I, Sir William Betham, Knight, Ulster King of Arms and principal Herald of all Ireland send Greeting. Whereas as application has been made to me by John Townsend Esq. of Castle Townsend in the County of Cork Major in the 14th Regiment of Light Dragoons on behalf of himself and the other descendants of his father Richard Boyle Townsend Esq. late of Castle Townsend, deceased. Setting forth that his ancestors have for many generations been seated at Castle Townsend aforesaid and have used and borne certain Armorial Ensigns which upon search do not appear to have been at any time recognized or recorded in my Office, and that he being desirous that such Ensigns Armorial should be assigned to his family as I may deem right and fitting, requests me to assign and grant the same accordingly:

KNOW Ye therefore that I the said Ulster King of Arms, the Premises duly considered am satisfied to comply with the said Applicant's request and by virtue of the power to me given by His Majesty's Royal Letters of Patent under the Great Seal of Ireland and by the Authority of the same DO by these Presents give, grant, assign, ratify, exemplify and confirm unto the said John Townsend Esq. the Arms herein after described that is to say Party per Chevron Azure and Sable a Chevron Erminois between the Escallop Shells Argent. For Crest on a Wreath of the Colours a Mound Vert and thereon a Buck Trippant Proper, attired hooped and charged on the side with an Escallop Shell Or for Moto.

The Whole as above more plainly appears depicted to be used and borne by the said John Townsend Esq. by the other descendants of his said late Father, and by their issue respectively for ever hereafter according to the Laws of Arms, without Let, Hindrance, Interruption or Molestation of any Person or Persons whatsoever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto subscribed my name and Title and affixed my Seal of Office this nineteenth day of February in the Ninth Year of the Reign of our Most Gracious Sovereign Lord George the Fourth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Eight.

W. Betham Ulster

Extract from the Regimental History of the 14th Regiment of Light Dragoons Summary of Regimental postings 1815 to 1841

December 1815. Embarked at Bristol for Ireland and landed at Waterford and Cork in January 1816.

June 1819. Embarked at Dublin and landed at Liverpool on 11 June.

April 1825. Embarked at Bideford for Ireland, landed at Waterford, and marched to Cork and Fermoy.

May 1826. Marched to Dublin – Portobello Barracks.

January 1827. Marched to Athlone, Ballinrobe, Gort, and Loughrea.

March 1828. Returned to Dublin. The regiment was commended for its appearance, efficiency and discipline, and also for its good conduct while in Ireland, by Lieut.-General Sir George Murray, K.C.B., commanding the forces in that country, at the inspection on the 22nd of March.

26 March 1828. Embarked for Liverpool.

1829. Marched from Liverpool to Birmingham and Coventry. Lieut Colonel Baker retired and was succeeded by Lieut Colonel John Townsend, by commission dated the 16th of April 1829.

May 1829. Marched to Leeds, Burnley, and Rochdale.

April 1830. Proceeded to Brighton and Chichester. The Regiment's appearance, discipline and interior economy were commended by Major-General Sir Hussey Vivian at the inspection on the 24th of May.

19 June 1830. The regiment was inspected at Brighton on the 19th June by its colonel, Lieut.-General Sir John Ormsby VandeJeur, G.C.B. who was pleased to express himself 'much gratified by the highly military appearance of the regiment, the celerity and precision of its movements in the field, and the clean and orderly state of the barracks, as well as the fine condition of the horses, all of which prove the zeal and ability of the commanding officer, and the active assistance he receives from the other officers, as well as the steady good conduct of the non-commissioned officers and privates, which he shall not fail to report to the Commander-in-Chief. He requests Lieut Colonel Townsend to accept his thanks and also to communicate them to the officers and to the regiment. He cannot omit observing the excellent management of the school, and the great progress of the pupils.'

July 1830. Marched to London and reviewed by His Majesty, King William IV. on the 26th of that month, who was graciously pleased to express his royal approbation of its appearance, and to command that it should in future bear the distinguished title of "The Fourteenth, or The King's, instead of the Duchess of York's Own, Regiment Of Light Dragoons."

Summer 1830. Marched to Birmingham and Coventry.

July 1831. Regimental headquarters moved to Gloucester.

October 1831. Two troops of the regiment sent to Bristol to quell the riots there – 'Queen Square Riots'.

June 1832. Moved to Hounslow and employed on the King's duty in furnishing escorts for their Majesties and the royal family, &c.

10 March 1833. Embarked at Bristol for Dublin, from whence it marched in April, 1834 to Longford.

May 1835. Moved to Dundalk.

May 1836. Embarked at Belfast for Glasgow.

Spring 1837. Marched to Edinburgh and occupied Piershill barracks.

Summer 1838. Moved to Birmingham.

April 1839. Marched to Hounslow.

May 1840. Proceeded to Dorchester in May.

30 March 1841. Moved to Canterbury, where it arrived on the 10th of April, preparatory to its being embarked for Bombay to relieve the fourth light dragoons.

24 May 1841. The first division, under the command of Lieut Colonel Townsend, embarked at Gravesend for India in the freight ship "Repulse" and arrived at Bombay on the 8th of September, from whence it proceeded to Kirkee. The second division embarked at Gravesend on board the freight ship "Reliance" on the 14th of June, under the command of Major Barton, landing at Bombay on the 5th of October, and marched to join the regiment at Kirkee, where it arrived on the 13th of that month.

1842 – 1844. The regiment was stationed at Kirkee: two squadrons however proceeded on field service to Kolapoor in October, 1844.

1845. Lieut Colonel Townsend received leave from 1845 India and he died at Castle Townsend in Ireland on the 22nd April, 1845. He was succeeded by Brevet Lieut Colonel Edward Harvey on the 23rd of April.

14th Dragoons Lodge Book of Enrolment

N ^o 273		14 th Progeens	
193	Thos Kelly	5 Dec 1817	5 Dec 1817
	W ^m Joul	401	8 Dec 1818
195	Henry Smith	242	
	Ehz Ward	17	1 Jan 1819
	Thos Polver Mellen	11	8 Mar 1819
	W ^m Beckwith		8 Mar 1819
	John Higgs		—
200	Mich ^l A. Price		—
	Narrson W. Jober		—
	John Lincolton		—
	John Basington		—
	Chas M. Garty		—
205	Samuel J. Dore	8 Mar	—
	John Tegg		—
	John Dawson		—
	John Townsend		—
	Thos. Mayes Baker	11	—
210	Robt. C. Hammond	11	
	Edw. Barry	11	
	John Morrow		9 May 1819
	W ^m Jones		—
	Mrs. Black		—
215	Thos. Simpson	9 May	—
	John McDonald		—
	Henry Scott		—
	Henry Richards	6 Jun	6 Jun 1819
	Frs. Souke	—	—
220	John Montaigne		25 May 1822
	Frs. Carmiche	31 July 1820	—
	Gio. Sumner		—
	W ^m Hirsch	23 May 1822	—
	John Fairbank	—	—

14th Dragoons Lodge Letter of 22 December 1827

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Wilmington, Delaware, Dec. 22. 1847

Washfield, Ohio, Dear Sir,


I am directed by our Washfield directors to acquaint you that on account of the dispersed state of the Regt. we are precluded from stating ourselves for the ensuing half year, but hope shall be able to do so before the 1st of June next. Consequently we return the old application our thanks &c. &c. I am likewise directed to inform you, pursuant to account of being paid

Officers &c.	Members &c.
✓ St. James Samuel Hall	✓ St. Bolt Bunker
✓ " Capt. Brown & H.	✓ " Capt. Bunker
✓ " Capt. St. George H.	✓ " Barry
✓ " Capt. Brown & H.	✓ " Capt. Black
✓ " " Smith S. H.	
✓ " " Baker James	
✓ " " " " " "	
✓ " " " " " "	
✓ " " " " " "	
✓ " " " " " "	

Very truly Yours

55 June 1848

P. Henry
Secretary



Extract from a Military Journal May 1845

'On the 22nd of April, at his seat, Castle Townshend, County Cork, Colonel Townshend of the 14th (King's) Light Dragoons, in which regiment, without intermission, he served upwards of forty years in the four quarters of the globe, and to which corps he was most sincerely and devotedly attached. He was beloved in the extreme by every officer who served with or under him, and by the non-commissioned officers and men, their wives and offspring—not only beloved, but actually adored. His regiment is now serving on the burning plains of India, where he left them in November last for the recovery of his health, having had the Indian ague, which at last caused his death. He was born on the 11th of June, 1789¹; therefore was in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was appointed Cornet in the 14th Light Dragoons on the 24th of January, 1805: Lieutenant on the 8th of March, 1806, by purchase: Captain on the 6th June, without purchase (in place of Captain Knife who was mortally wounded in the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, and died a few days after): Brevet Major on the 21st of January, 1810, as a reward for active and zealous services during the Peninsular War: Major in the regiment, by purchase, on the 13th of September, 1821: Lieutenant-Colonel, by purchase, on the 16th of April, 1829: and Aide-de-camp to the Queen on the 23rd of November, 1841, consequently Colonel in the army. On the 16th of December, 1808, he sailed from Falmouth with his regiment for Portugal, and disembarked at Lisbon on the 24th of December, 1808. He was first engaged on the plains of Vogo, on the 10th of May, 1809, and in close pursuit of the enemy on the 11th, at the crossing of the Douro and capturing of Oporto on the 12th under Sir Arthur Wellesley (the enemy commanded by Marshal Soult). In the several skirmishes with the French rear-guard from Oporto to Galicia in Spain, from the 13th to the 17th of May, 1809. In the engagements of the 27th and 28th of July, 1809, at Talavera. In an affair with the enemy's ad-

vanced posts on the 11th of July, 1810, in front of Ciudad Rodrigo, under the command of Lieut-Col. Talbot, who was killed with many others of the regiment. Engaged with the enemy on the 24th of July, 1810, at the passage of the Coa, near Almeida, under the command of Major-General Crawford. In the several skirmishes of the rear-guard from Almeida to Buzaco. Was present at Buzaco on the 27th of September, 1810 (cavalry not engaged). From Buzaco to Coimbra, and on to the great and ever-to-be-remembered lines of Torres Vedras, where the army arrived in the early part of October, 1810. From the 6th of March to the 4th of April, 1811, in the several affairs and skirmishes on the enemy's retreat from Santarem to the frontiers of Spain. (These are too numerous to particularise here, as the regiment was more or less engaged nearly every day). In the engagements of the 3rd and 5th of May, 1811, Fuentes d'Onor: employed as aide-de-camp to Sir Stapleton Cotton, on the 5th was slightly wounded and his horse shot. In the affair with the enemy's Lancers at Espega on the 25th September, 1811. Employed on duty at the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo in December, 1811, and January, 1812. Employed at the siege of Badajoz in March and April, 1812. In an affair with the enemy's cavalry on the 11th of April, 1812, at Usagre and Llerena, under the command of Sir Stapleton Cotton. In an affair on the 16th of June, 1812, in front of Salamanca. In an affair with the enemy's cavalry on the 18th of July, 1812, near Castrillos. At the battle of Salamanca on the 22nd of July, 1812. In an affair with the enemy's rear-guard near Penerrando on the 23rd of July, 1812. In the several skirmishes with the enemy's rear-guard on their retreat from Salamanca to our taking of Madrid on the 13th of August, 1812. From the 24th of October to the 20th of November, 1812, in the several skirmishes from Madrid to Salamanca and from Salamanca to Ciudad Rodrigo. In the several affairs and skirmishes from the 26th of May (these are also too many to particularise, as they were nearly daily) to the battle of Vittoria on the 21st of June, when the whole of the enemy's baggage was taken or destroyed, together with nearly the whole of their artillery. On the 24th of June, 1813, at the

taking of the enemy's last gun near Pampeluna, under the command of Major Brotherton of the same regiment. In the several engagements in the Pyrenees on the last three days of August, 1813. In the several engagements and skirmishes from the entrance of the British army into France, on the 10th of November, 1813, to the battle of Orthes on the 27th of February, 1814, and to the 8th of March, 1814, when he was made prisoner of war in an affair with the enemy near the city of Pau. This took place about six weeks before the termination of the war by the abdication of Napoleon. (In consequence of the regiment being nearly daily engaged in France, it is impossible to particularise the affairs in that country, and bring them within the limits of a newspaper.) The whole of the above services were under the chief command of his Grace the Duke of Wellington. He was also present at New Orleans in America on the 8th of January, 1815, but not mounted. He was one of the Board of Officers appointed by the General commanding-in-chief in 1831 under Lord Edward Somerset for revising the formations and movements of the cavalry. He had been several times slightly wounded, but never quitted the field. He was Aide-de-camp to Her Majesty. He served in India with his regiment till November, 1844, when he embarked at Bombay. He arrived in his native country in January last, and expired, as before stated. A more humane, kind, tender-hearted and generous or a braver soldier did not exist, notwithstanding he was in every respect a strict disciplinarian.'

Mem orial in St Barrahan's Church, Castletownshend



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JOHN TOWNSEND, entered the army as a cornet in the FOURTEENTH light dragoons on the 24th June 1805; was promoted to a lieutenancy on the 27th February 1806; to be captain of a troop on the 6th June 1811. He served in the Peninsula from December 1808, until taken prisoner near the city of Pau in France on the 8th March 1814, including the different affairs of the 10th and 11th May and in crossing the Douro on the 12th May 1809; battle of Talavera in July 1809; affair with the enemy's advanced posts on the 11th July 1810 in front of Ciudad Rodrigo under the command of Colonel Talbot, who was killed; passage of the Coa; skirmishes of the rear guard from Almeida to the lines of Torres Vedras in 1810; affairs in the enemy's retreat from Santarem to the frontiers of Spain from 6th March to 4th April 1811; battle of Fuentes d'Onor, where he was wounded; affair with the enemy's lancers on the 25th September 1811; siege of Badajoz; affairs with the enemy's cavalry at Usagre, Llerena, in front of Salamanca, and near Castillos; battle of Salamanca; affair with the enemy's rear guard near Panerandos; several skirmishes from Madrid to Ciudad Rodrigo, and from the 26th May near Salamanca to the battle of Vittoria; taking of a gun from the enemy near Pamplona, and several engagements and skirmishes from the entrance of the British army into France, until the battle of Orthes. He embarked for America in October 1814, and was present at the attack on New Orleans on the 8th of January 1815. He was promoted to a majority on the 13th September 1821; and to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the regiment on the 16th April 1829. He embarked in command of the regiment for India on the 24th May 1841, and was appointed aide-de-camp to the Queen, with the rank of colonel, on the 23rd November, 1841. He returned from India, on leave of absence, in the early part of the year 1845, and died at Castle Townsend, in Ireland, on the 22nd April 1845.

John's Obituary - The Gentleman's Magazine 1845

COLONEL JOHN TOWNSEND. April 22. At Castle Townsend, Cork, aged 56, Colonel John Townsend, A.D.C. to the Queen, and Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding the 14th Light Dragoons. He served in that distinguished regiment uninterruptedly for more than 40 years, and only left the gallant corps in India a few months since to recruit his impaired health. He entered the army as a Cornet by purchase on the 24th Jan. 1805. He was promoted to a lieutenancy on the 8th March, 1806, and went in service to the Peninsula, where he commenced that glorious career which imprinted on the colours of his regiment "Douro," "Talavera," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Orthes," and "Peninsula." He was engaged in three successive actions on the 10th and 11th of May, 1809, leading to the passage of the Douro on the 12th; Talavera was the next affair of magnitude, and then in front Ciudad Rodrigo on the 11th July, 1810, where his commander, Colonel Talbot, was killed; and subsequently that year in the passage of the Coa, and the dashing skirmishes with the enemy when in the rear-guard from Almeida to the lines of Torres Vedras. In March of the following year, 1811, he was several times engaged with the retreating enemy from Santarem to the Spanish frontiers. He was promoted to his troop in June, and fought in the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, and was engaged with the French Lancers on the 25th September. In the former action he was wounded. He was subsequently in most of the brilliant affairs in the Peninsula up to March 8, 1814, when he was taken prisoner in France, near the city of Pau. He was engaged at the siege of Badajoz, in front of Salamanca, and near Castillos with the enemy's cavalry, Salamanca, the rearguard near Panerandos, the skirmishing from Madrid to Ciudad Roderigo. and again from the 26th of May, near to Salamanca, to the battle of Vittoria. He was at the capturing of a gun near Pamplona, and in many other gallant exploits, from the entrance of the British into France to the battle of Orthes. His imprisonment was of short duration, and he embarked for America in the month of October, 1814; and concluded his chief war services in the attack on New Orleans on the 8th of January of the following year. He obtained his brevet promotion on the 21st January, 1819, and purchased his regimental majority on the 13th Sept. 1821. He became Lieutenant-Colonel by purchase on the 16th April, 1829, and full Colonel on the 23d November, 1841, by the general promotion in honour of the birth of the Prince of Wales, the regiment having embarked for India on the 24th of May of that year. It was not however only in the field that Colonel Townsend was distinguished. In that perhaps more difficult task — the management of his regiment, and the maintenance of its domestic economy, no man was ever more remarkable for his talent in conciliating, by sufficient discipline as well as by judicious liberality, the affections of the soldiers under his command; while his perfect tact and firm good nature secured among his officers a spirit of unity and friendliness. After nearly 40 years' constant service with the 14th Light Dragoons, Colonel Townsend might perhaps have been justified if he had declined to follow his regiment to India, but he preferred the risk of a tropical climate to a separation from the corps with which he had been so long honourably connected, and only for a few months survived his return.