

John FitzHenry Townsend [250]

John aged 16



John FitzHenry Townsend
only child of
Henry Owen Becher Townse id
late of Malmaison,
Castle Townsend, Co. Cork.
Aged 16. Born 1811. Died 1893

John aged 36



John Fitzhenry Townshend
Barrister at Law. 1827
Only son of Henry Townshend
of Malmaison, Castle Townshend
Co. Cork.

John sometime 1855-1868 when he was Deputy Grand Master

Picture copied from "The History of Freemasonry"
by Robert Freke Gould and published in about 1892



V. Laurie Scott.

HONOURABLE JUDGE TOWNSEND, LL.D.

John's wife Ellen Armstrong



Ellen, wife of John Tithem, Townshend
Barrister at Law. 1847.
daughter of Rev. George Armstrong. &
Charlotte Besnard who was
of French Huguenot descent.



Castletownshend and St Barrahané's Church 2013



The Main Street



Seafield, Castletownshend



King's Inns, Dublin



King's Inns was established in 1541, when lawyers named their new society in honour of King Henry VIII and successfully secured a lease of lands at Inns Quay (where the Four Courts are now located). By the end of the 18th century, the government of the day decided that it needed a building to house courts and so, in 1800, the noted architect, James Gandon, having just completed the Four Courts complex, was commissioned to design the present buildings on Constitution Hill. Henceforward, these would be the headquarters of the Benchers and the School of Law. The primary focus of the school is the training of barristers.

The Honourable Society of King's Inns comprises benchers, barristers and students. The benchers include all the judges of the Supreme and High Courts and a number of elected barristers. The School of Law is the oldest institution of professional legal education in Ireland. Its reputation is international with a long list of eminent graduates including former presidents of Ireland and of other countries, politicians and, of course, judges and barristers in practice throughout the English speaking world.

Memorial in St Barrahanes Church, Castletownshend



Obituary of John FitzHenry Townshend
Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society
Series 1, Volume II, page 56, 1893.

Died at his Dublin residence, on February 2nd, the Hon. John FitzHenry Townshend, LL.D., of Seafield, Castletownshend, co. Cork, a member of this Society. Called to the Bar in 1834, and appointed Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of Ireland in 1867. He was the oldest judge in the United Kingdom. The following sketch of Judge Townshend appeared in an Irish journal two or three years ago:

" But for all his eighty winters he is still a hale and vigorous man, able to attend to whatever duties his office imposes on him, and willing to do a great deal more if it were to be done. His intellectual faculties remain absolutely unimpaired; he is an admirably patient and painstaking judge. There is naturally an old-time air about him that is vanished from the other courts, where the judges, besides being younger men, are more in touch with the modern world and its notions. Judge Townshend is a fine specimen of an old Irish gentleman and of the old Irish judge, dignified, courteous, and kind. He commands respect by his mien and by his manner, and he shows respect to the advocates who practice before him. It is impossible to imagine in his court an unpleasant incident, a quarrel among counsel, or an interchange of warm words between the Bench and the Bar. His genial presence causes warm and kindly feeling to flourish in the little company round the barrister's table, and everybody instinctively recognizes that it is a professional duty to make the judge's position as pleasant and as free from irksomeness as possible. Judge Townshend has a quiet humour of his own (rather of the dry English kind), which discloses itself on rare occasions, and makes you think what a pleasant couple of hours you might spend sitting at a cosy fire with him, and hearing him discourse on his favourite topics. Men of his own time, his personal friends, say that he is a charming companion, most rich in excellent matter of conversation, and most interesting in his manner. In addition to his knowledge of maritime law, he has a practical acquaintance with nautical matters, and is a capital seaman."

Extracts from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

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 apportioned 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.; 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].

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

GLANDORE, a small but rising village, in the parish of KILFAUGHNABEG, Western Division of the barony of EAST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 3 miles (S. W.) from Rosscarbery; containing about 200 inhabitants. This seems to have been a place of some importance at an early period, as appears from the erection of the castles of Glandore and Kilfinnan; for many years it continued in a very impoverished state, but it has again become a place of considerable note through the spirited exertions of its present proprietor, J. Redmond Barry, Esq., who has within the last few years expended upwards of £10,000 in various improvements. It is situated on the eastern side of Glandore harbour, which affords secure anchorage to vessels of large size; and is navigable to Leap, a village on the Cork and Skibbereen mail road. The scenery at the entrance of the harbour is extremely picturesque, and is remarkable as having formed the subject, of a Latin poem, called "Carberiae Rupes," written by Dean Swift, who spent some time in the neighbourhood. A pier has been recently constructed near the village, which affords protection to about 20 fishing yawls of three tons each; fish of every kind is abundant in the bay. Many elegant houses and a comfortable hotel have been erected, and from the beauty of its situation and the salubrity of the climate, the village has become a favourite place of residence, and much frequented during the bathing season; baths have been erected and every accommodation afforded for the convenience of visitors. The principal residences are Glandore Castle, the seat of P. Morris, Esq.; Glandore House, of J. Redmond Barry, Esq.; Glandore Cottage, of JFH. Townsend (*John FitzHenry Townsend [250]*), Esq.; Glandore Lodge, of R. Adams, Esq.; Stone Hall, of Major T. Allen; Westview House, of Major Edw. Allen; Chateau Maria, of F. Allen, Esq.; Kilfinnan Castle, of T. Raneland, Esq.; Prospect House, of John Morris, Esq.; Glenville, of Capt. E. Hart; Union Cottage, of Mrs. Donovan; and Cliff Cottage, of the Rev. Mr. Walker. A temporary church and the R. C. chapel for the parish of Kilfaughnabeg are in the village. A school-house capable of containing 600 children has been lately erected by Mr. Barry, with the aid of the National Board of Education; the boys receive instruction in agriculture and trades from competent teachers, and a model farm and carpenters' workshop are connected with it. The management of the girls' school reflects the highest credit on Miss Adams, the acting patroness, who most benevolently devotes her time to its superintendence: an infants' school has also been established.

**John's Appointment as a Judge of the High Court of The Admiralty in Ireland
3 November 1867**



Crown and Stamps Office
Four Courts
Tuesday 3rd day of November 1867.

I Certify that John Fitz Henry Townsend Esq LL.D
was this day Sworn in before The Lord High Chancellor
of Ireland as "Judge of the High Court of Admiralty
of Ireland"

Alfred Russell
Clerk of the Crown and Stamps.

Ord.
D.A.H.

A Pedigree
of the different Houses of the Irish
Branch of the Courshend Family.

compiled and arranged

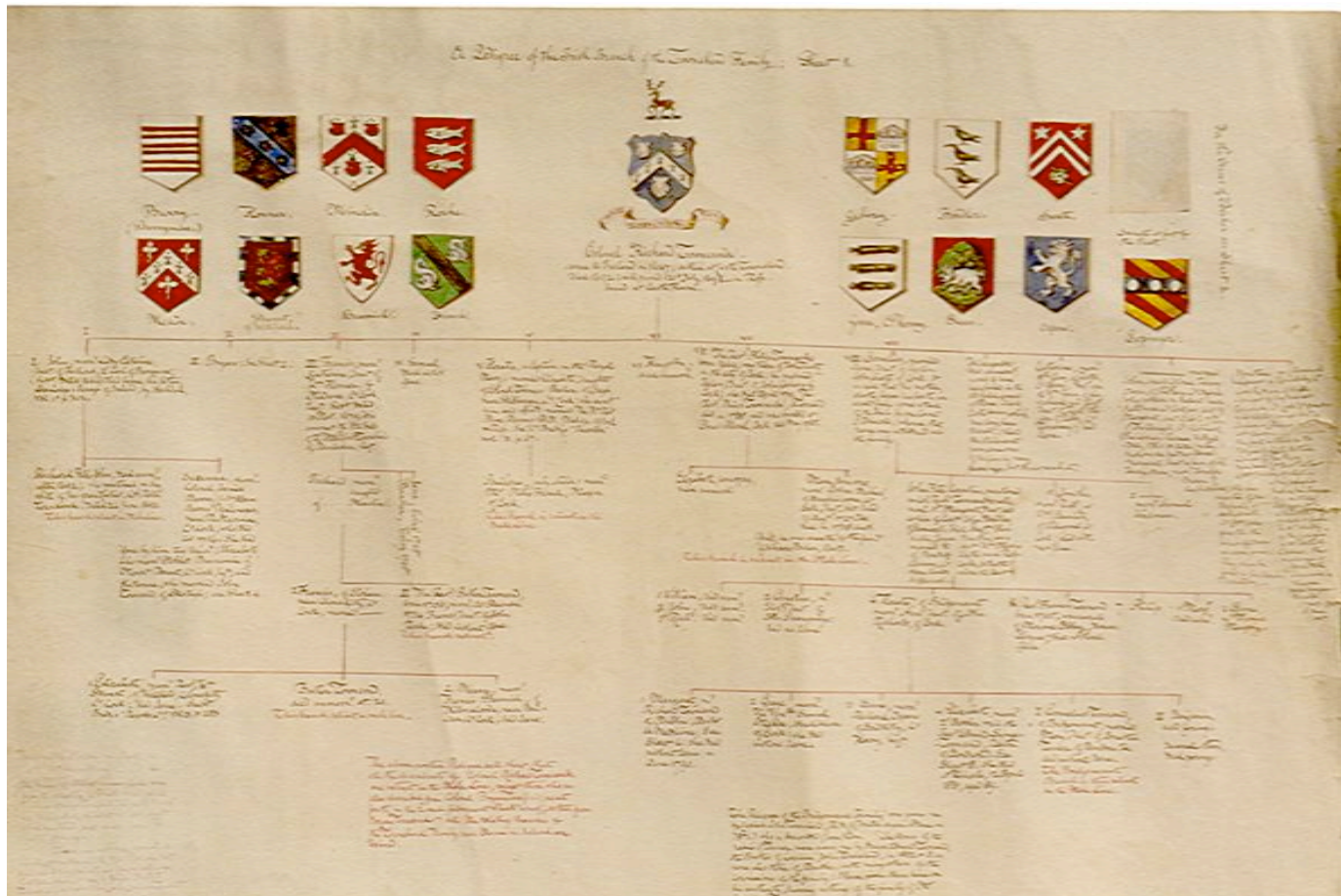
by
John Fitzhenry Courshend

and
John Crewe Chetwood Tomshend.

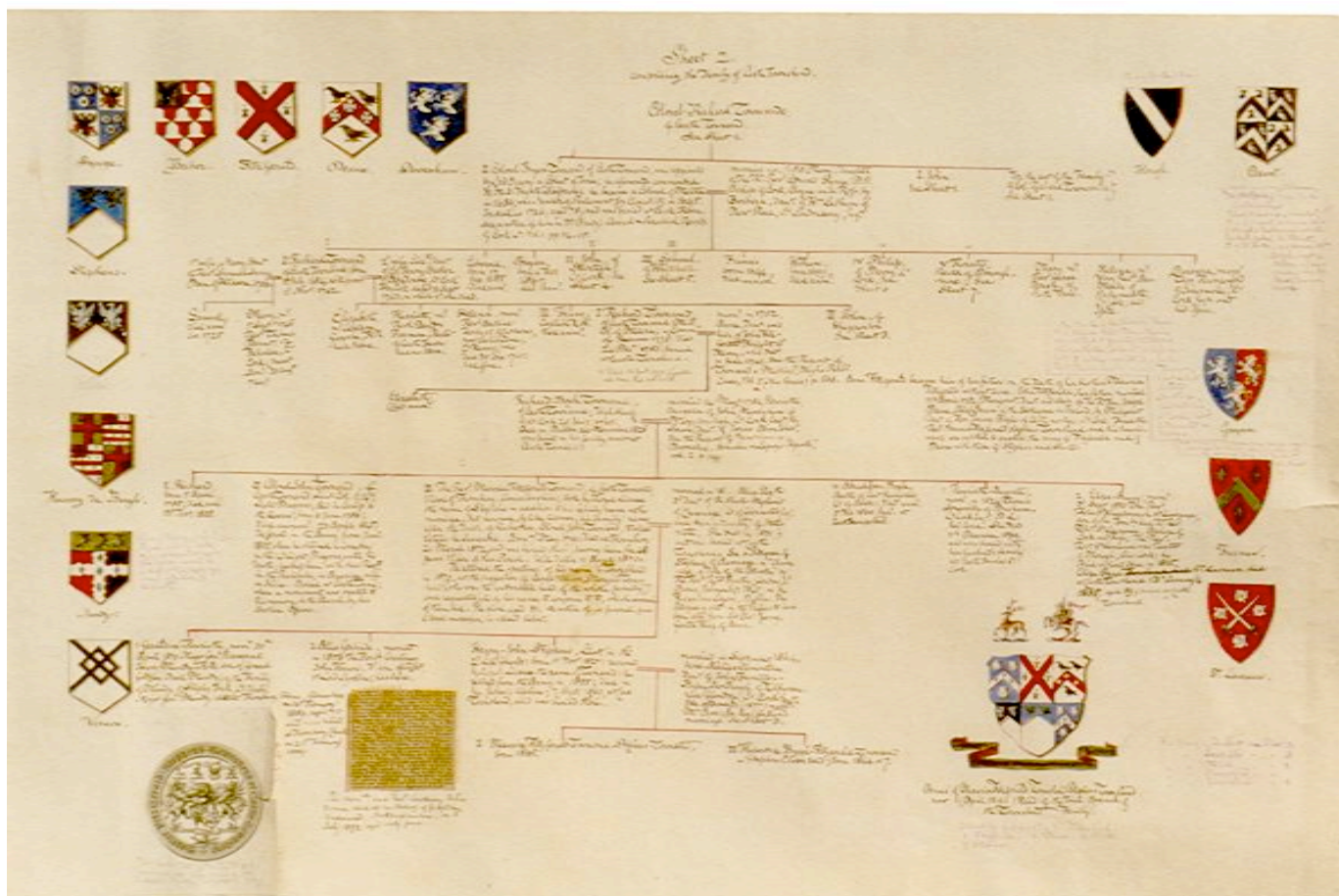
" Qu' ils disaient selon leurs lumières de
" cet arbre généalogique; c'est une étude
" que je respecte. J'ignore si elle éclairera
" mon esprit, mais je sais bien qu'elle ne
" peut parler à mon cœur. La science n'est
" pas la vertu. Paul, apôtre, dans sa
" première épître à Timothée, dit lui-
" même qu'il ne faut pas s'occuper des
" généalogies. Nous n'en serons pas plus
" gens de bien quand nous saurons quels
" étaient les aïeux de Joseph."

Voltaire.

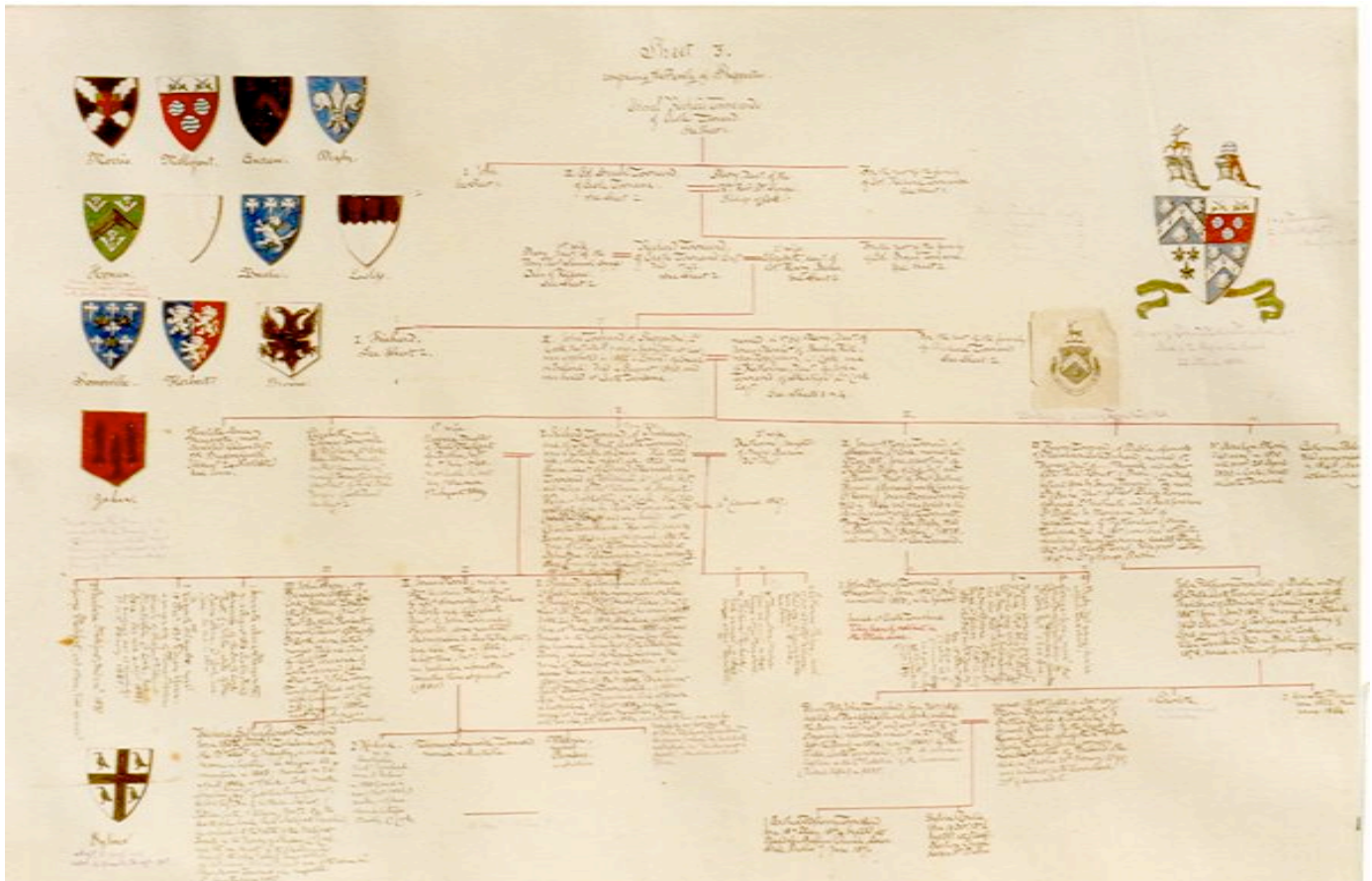
Sheet 1 of John's Townsend Pedigree



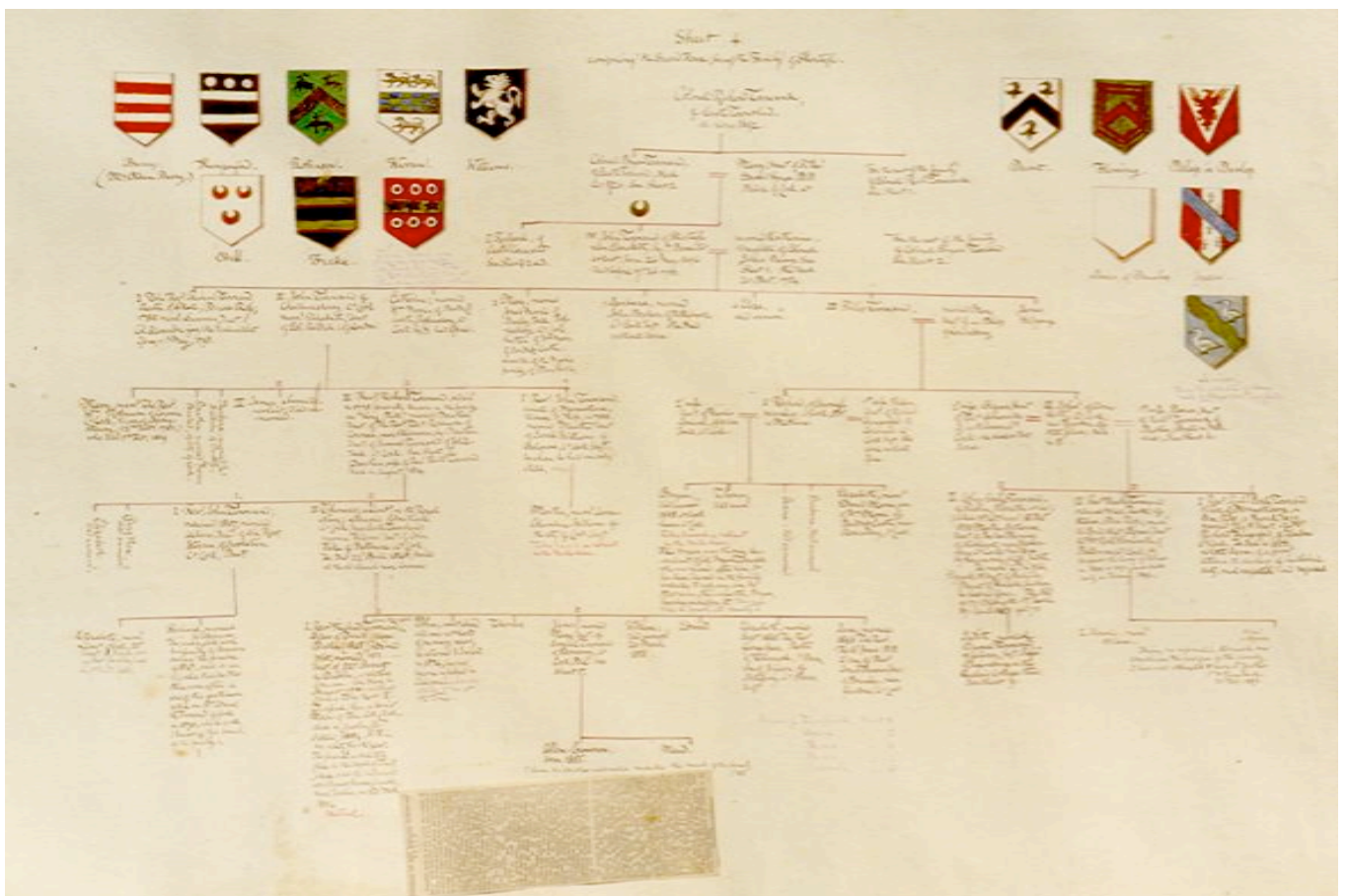
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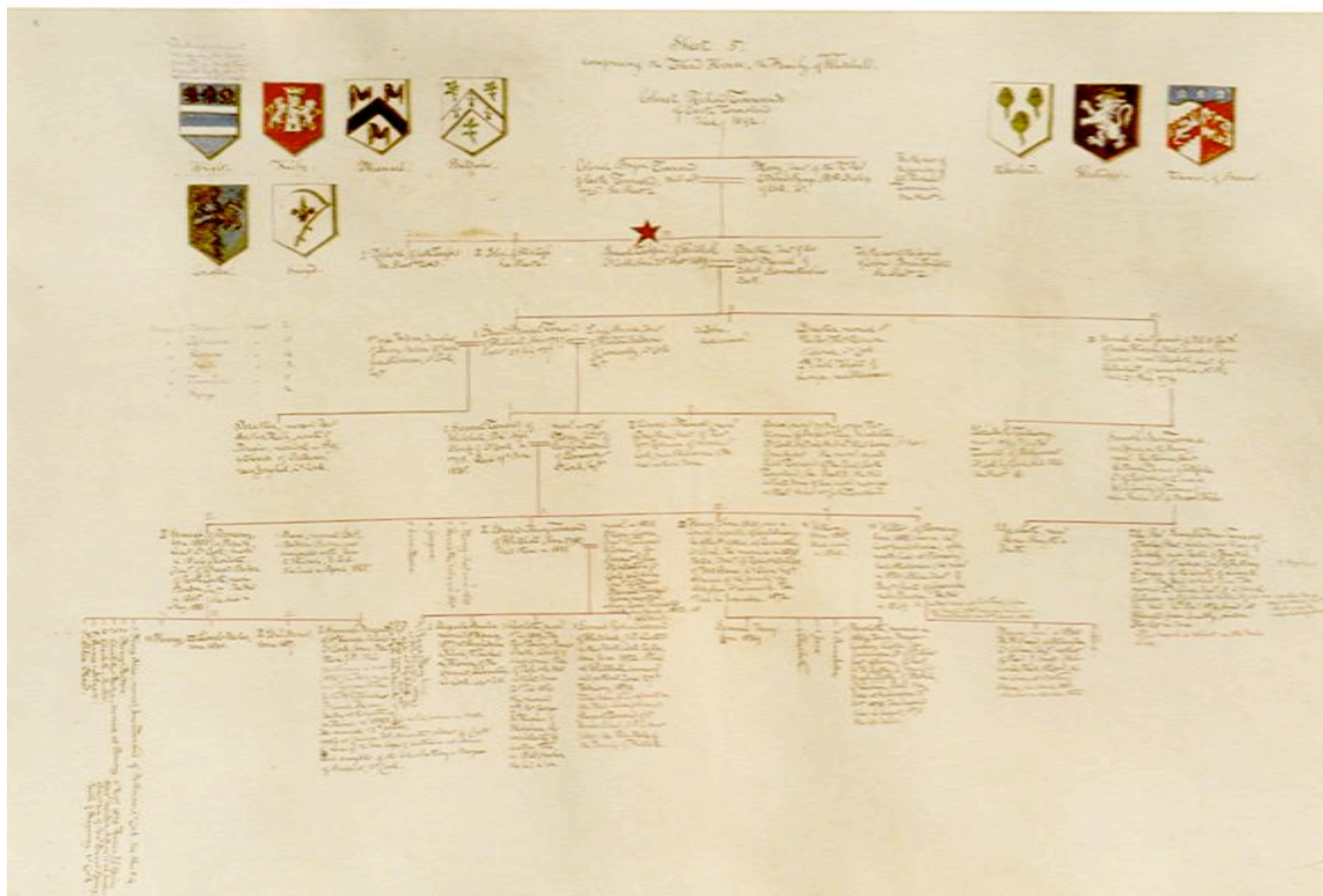
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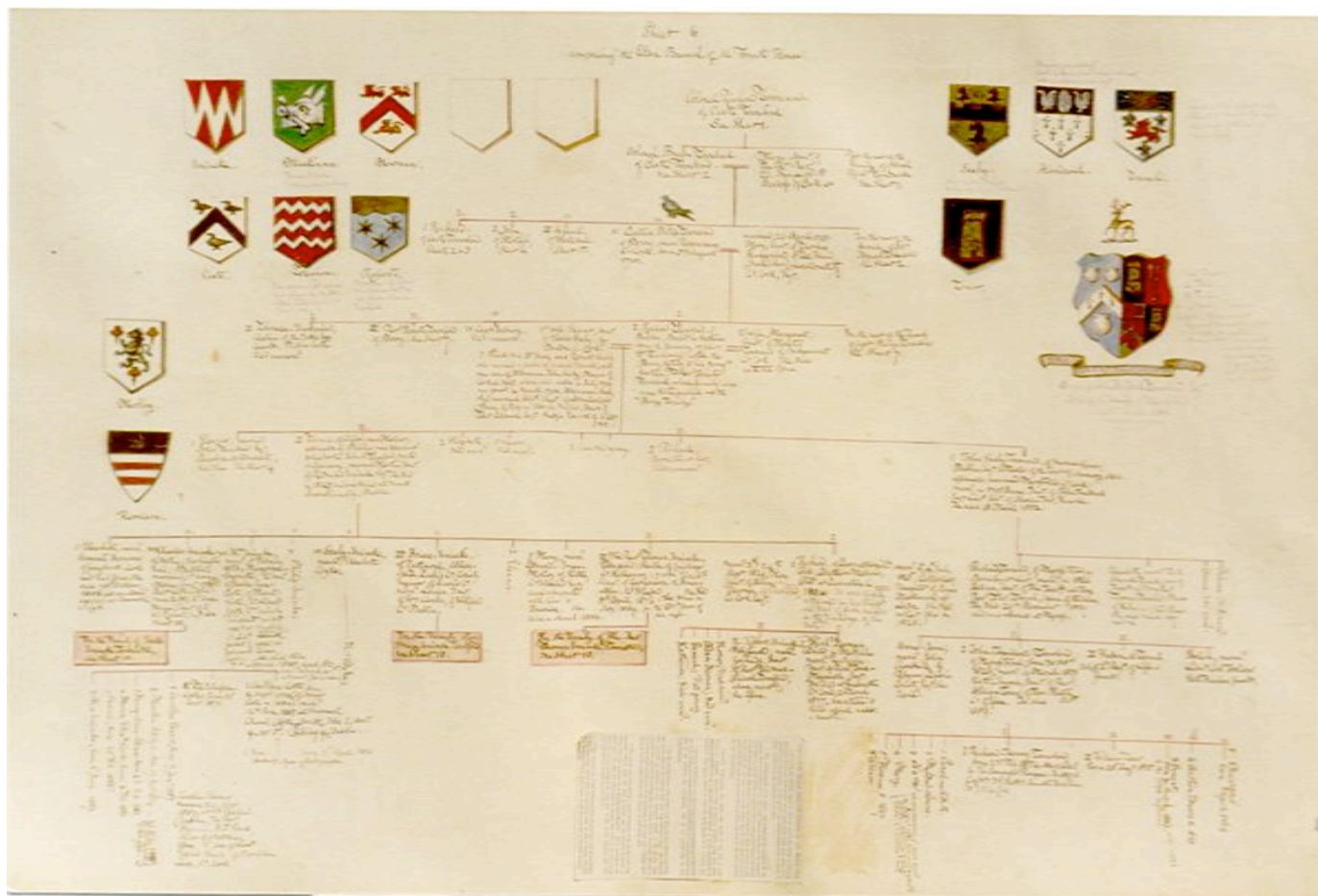
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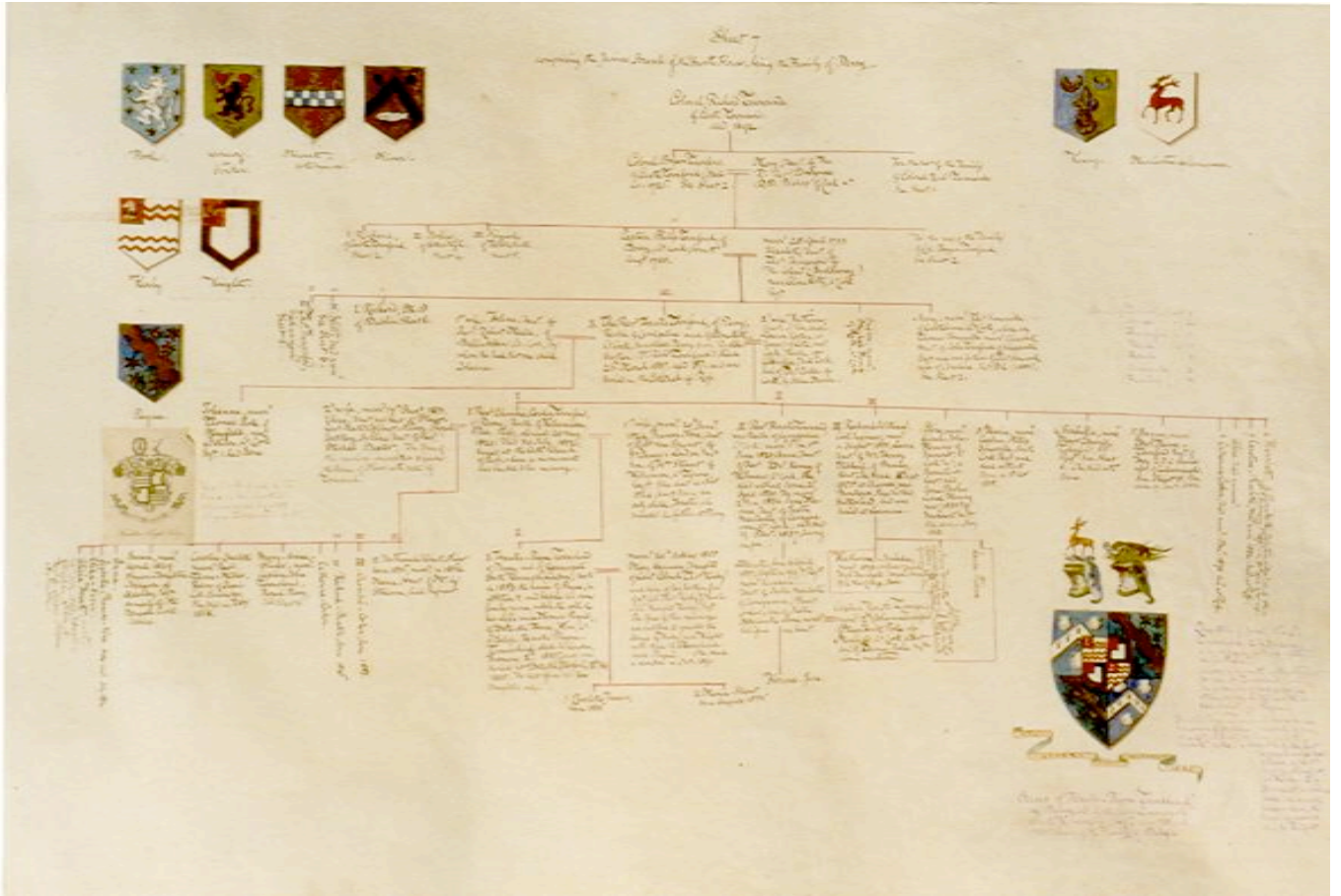
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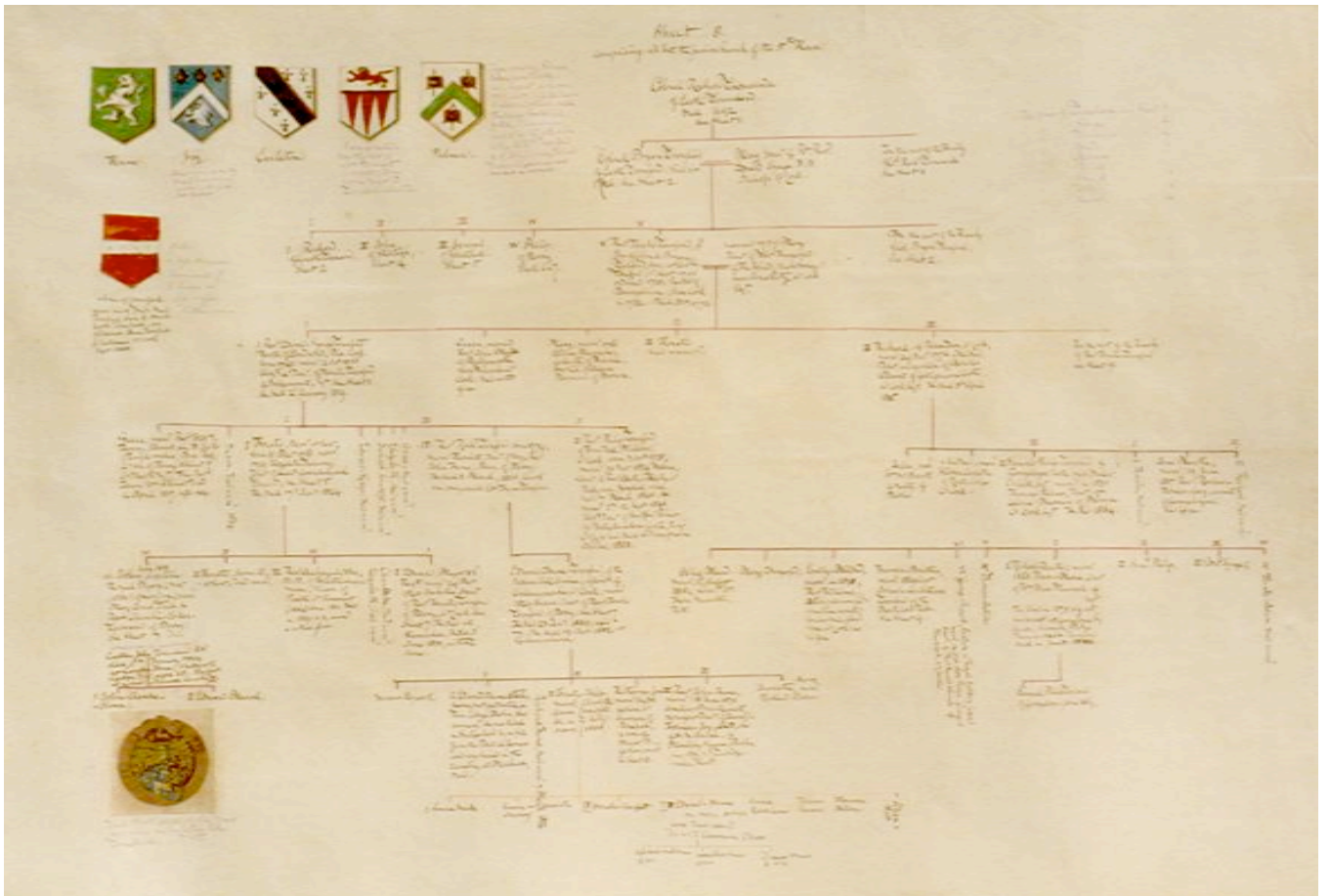
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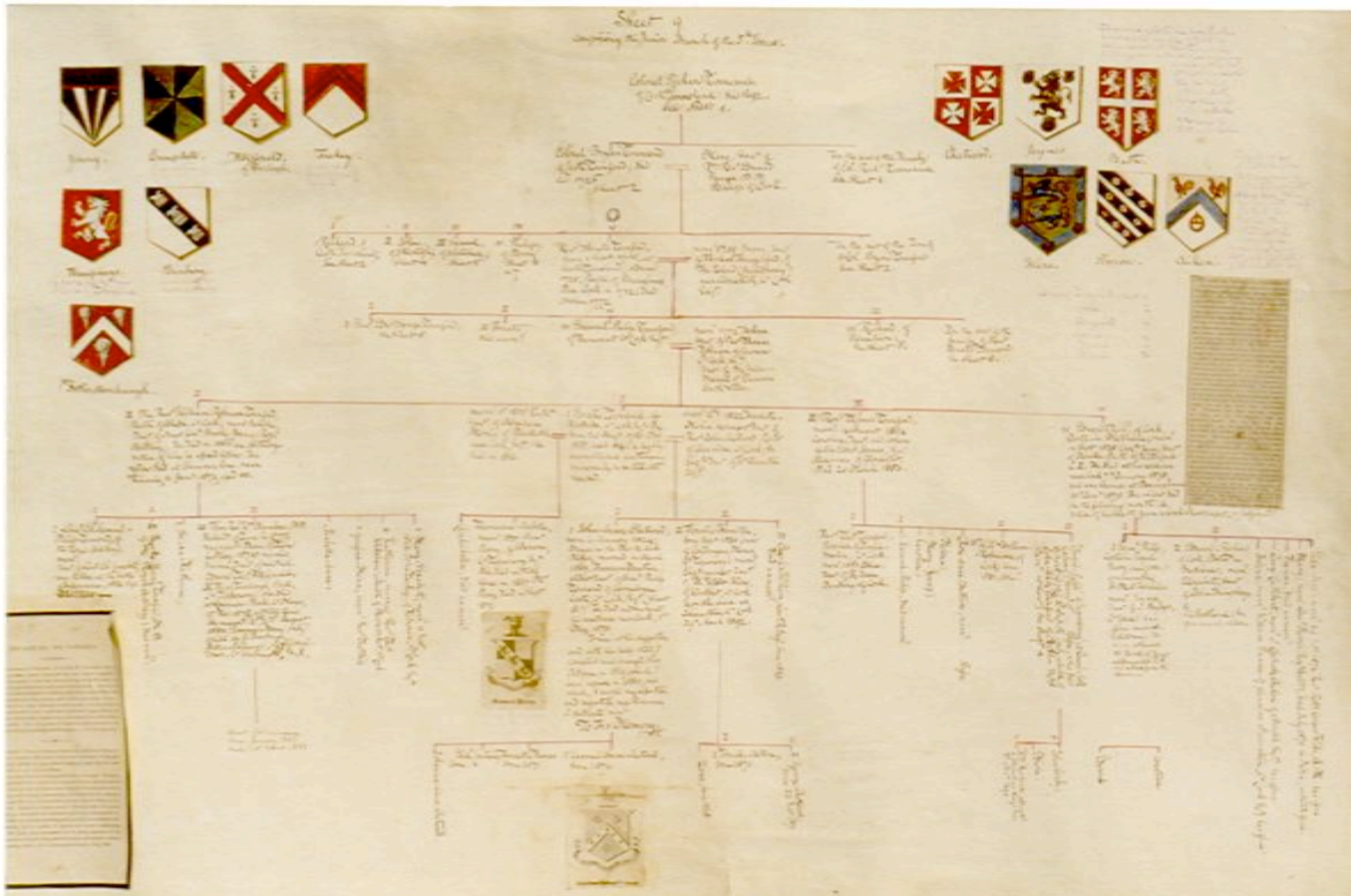


Sheet 7



Sheet 8





Transcript of part of a letter from John Townsend [622] to his Cousin Isabella Townsend [5D08] about the Cork Royal Yacht Club and John FitzHenry's boat.

[embossed crest]

July 4. 1840.

H.M.Ship Cambridge, Spithead,

My dear Isabella,

Here I am so far on my way to Lisbon, and how long we are likely to remain here is quite uncertain as much so as it was at Plymouth Ho: This Ambassador who is going out passenger in this ship to Genoa, is at present in London. I fully expect that we shall not start for ten days at least.

July 6. I have just received your letter acknowledging the safe arrival of the boxes &c. I am glad you like the vase all I hope in this you have taken the saw dust out of it for it makes a great difference in its appearance - it will very easily shake out of it and can as easily be put in again. Today we have heard that at the soonest Thursday could be the day of sailing very likely Saturday or Sunday. The Ambassador Mr. Abercrombie comes down to Portsmouth tomorrow.....I was looking over the list of the Cork Royal Yacht Club & I think there were not less than a dozen Townsends in it only one however who owned a vessel namely - J'no Fitz-Townsend's "Growler".

.....

Ever your affectionate cousin, **John Townsend.**

TOWNSHEND, JOHN FITZ-HENRY (only child of Henry Owen Beecher Townshend of Malmaisor, Castle Townshend, co. Cork, *d.* 18 March 1847). *b.* 1 Jany. 1811; educ. Trin. coll. Dublin; B.A. Dublin 1829, LL.B. and LL.D. 1847; barrister King's Inns, Dublin 1834, bencher 1877 to death; Q.C. 8 Feb. 1865; judge of high court of admiralty in Ireland 4 Nov. 1867 to death; masonic deputy grand master for Ireland some years. *d.* 30 Upper Fitzwilliam st. Dublin 2 Feb. 1893. *bur.* Mount Jerome cemet. Dublin. *Gould's History of freemasonry v 57 (1886) portrait; Our judges. By Rhadamanthus (1890) portrait; Irish law times, 4 Feb. 1893 p. 167, 11 Feb. p. 77.*

John's Signet Ring
(in the possession of Tony Knox [556])

