



Extract from Brady's Clerical and Parochial Records of Cork, Cloyne and Ross Volume II
1863

1788. Oct. 22. The Dean and Chapter lease to **Rev. John Townsend** the tithes and due of Marmullane, to hold as long as he shall continue Curate of the same. [D.R.]

John Townsend (eldest son of John Townsend, of Court-masherry, who was married to Elisabeth, dau. of Colonel Reddish, and who was the second son of John Townsend and Catherine Barry, *vide* Scull, 1780-1793, the Rev. R. Townsend) was ordained Deacon on 23rd April, 1775, and Priest on 5th May, 1776, both at Cork.

In 1776 he was Curate of Island, Ross, and from 1788 to 1791 was Curate of Marmullane.

He married Martha, dau. of Carrē Williams, esq., of Ashgrove, county Cork, and had issue a daughter, Martha, who was wife to Carrē-Columbine Williams, esq., of Cork.

Extract from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

ISLAND (The), or INCHYDONY, a parish, partly in the Eastern Division of the barony of EAST CARBERY, but chiefly in the barony of IBANE and BARRYROE, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 1 1/2 mile (S.) from Clonakilty; containing 1445 inhabitants. It is situated on the bay of Clonakilty, in which is the island from which it takes its name. In 1390, De Courcy, Baron of Kinsale, and his brother Patrick, were put to death by the Irish of Carbery under the command of Daniel Moel McCarty Reagh. In 1584, the island, having escheated to the Crown, was granted by Queen Elizabeth to the Bishop of Ross. After the battle of Clonakilty, in 1642, 600 of the Irish forces fled towards this island as a place of refuge; but the tide setting in at the time, they were all drowned before they could reach it. An extensive strand surrounds the base of the island, which is dry at low water; it comprises more than 1000 acres of rich alluvial soil, which might be reclaimed from the sea and brought into profitable cultivation. The parish contains 2502 statute acres, as applotted under the tithe act: the land is fertile and in a state of high cultivation; it is principally under tillage, with some rich pasture; the system of agriculture is improved, and there is neither waste land nor bog. Sea manure is obtained in abundance, and is brought in by sand boats and lighters daily. The principal seats are Island House that of T. Hungerford*, Esq., pleasantly situated in a retired and sheltered part of the island; and Dunowen, of Geo. Sandes, Esq., occupying an interesting site on the mainland. The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Ross, formerly united to those of Kilgariff, Castleventry, Kilkerranmore, Ardfert, and Desart, from which it was severed in 1829, and now solely constitutes the prebend of Island in the cathedral of Ross, with which are held the vicarages of Kilgariff and Desart, and in the patronage of the Bishop; the rectory is impropriate in the representatives of F. Townsend [?], Esq. The tithes of the prebend amount to £260, and of the benefices held with it, to £250. Near Dunmore is a rich vein of lead ore, containing nearly 15 per cent, of pure silver; it is close upon the shore, but has not been worked with perseverance. On an elevated site in the north-western part of the island are the ruins of the old church.

* *Hungerford connections with Philip Townsend [500] and Horatio Townsend [600].*

MARMULLANE, or PASSAGE, a parish, in the barony of KERRYCURRIHY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, on the western shore of the estuary of the Lee, opposite the Great Island; containing, with the greater part of the post-town of Passage-West (which is separately described), 1639 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the west by the liberties of the city of Cork, and on the south by Monkstown; it comprises 534 statute acres, as applotted under the tithe act, and valued at £937 per ann., which, with the exception of about 4 or 5 acres of woodland, are arable and pasture, generally good land, though light and rapidly absorbing moisture; good crops of corn are produced, though the land is principally devoted to dairy farms; agriculture is rapidly improving under the spirited exertions of J. Roberts, Esq., a large landed proprietor, who has introduced the Scottish system of husbandry and the most improved agricultural implements, at a great expense. The interesting character of the scenery, and the numerous beautiful views over the river and the adjacent islands, have rendered this parish very attractive for genteel families, whose pleasure grounds and demesnes occupy much of the land. Among the principal seats are Pembroke, that of T. Parsons Boland, Esq.; Ardmore, of J. Roberts, Esq.; Grove Hill, of J. C. Irvine, Esq.; Rockenham, of Noble Johnson, Esq.; Greenmount, of E. K. Percy, Esq.; Horse Head, of Samuel Lane, Esq., an elegant mansion in the Tudor style of architecture, situated amidst beautiful scenery; and the glebe-house, of the Rev. R. Lloyd; besides which there are numerous villas, cottages, &c., principally occupied during the summer months by merchants and other inhabitants of Cork. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the diocese of Cork, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter, to whom the rectory is appropriate: the tithes amount to £69, granted by the dean and chapter to the perpetual curate. The glebe comprises 8 acres; the glebe-house was built, in 1813, by aid of a gift of £450 and a loan of £50 from the late Board of First Fruits. The church, situated in the town of Passage, was a small edifice, built in 1684, but it was considerably enlarged in 1808, at the expense of the dean and chapter, aided by local contributions; it is, however, much too small, and is about to be replaced by one which will afford better accommodation to the increasing population.