



The Castle and St Barrahan's Church 2013



**The Main Street**



**St Matthew's, Baltimore**



**PROTESTANT CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY  
OF CORK.**

**AT A NUMEROUS MEETING OF THE  
COUNTY AND CITY OF CORK CON-  
SERVATIVE SOCIETY, held this day at the IM-  
PERIAL CLARENCE ROOMS, most numerously  
attended—**

Lord Viscount BEREHAVEN in the Chair:

The following Resolutions were Proposed by ROBERT HEDGES EYRE, seconded by JOHN SMITH BARRY, and unanimously agreed to:—

1st.—That at a period when every exertion is made to produce discontent and tumult amongst our population, and to excite their hostility towards the Protestant Institutions of the country, it becomes the evident and bounded duty of all those who feel interested in the welfare of the Empire, and desirous to transmit to posterity the blessings we have hitherto enjoyed, to merge every minor consideration, and to unite in one common and determined effort to preserve the remnant of our Constitution, and maintain the integrity of the United Kingdom.

2d.—That we cannot contemplate without deep regret and sympathy, the embarrassing situation in which our highly respected Clergy are placed, by illegal plots and proceedings, which pending the settlement of an important question now under consideration of Parliament, have withheld from them their incomes, and exposed them to personal danger, insult and annoyance; and that we feel bound, as far as in us lies, to prevent such outrages, and to uphold their just and legal rights.

3d.—That a system of terror and intimidation, bearing in no small degree the character of religious persecution, is rapidly spreading throughout the country, which deserves the reprobation of every truly liberal mind, and renders it needful for us to extend the utmost protection and encouragement to those who, from their dependent circumstances, may be more exposed to its influence.

4th.—That every expedient which has been proposed or in any way sanctioned by his Majesty's Government to afford even the slightest protection to the Protestant interests in Ireland, has been frustrated by the unconstitutional efforts of an Irish Cabal, sent to Parliament under the influence of the Roman Catholic Priesthood and of revolutionary Demagogues; and as we regret to find that the members who now represent our county, city, and boroughs, have rather aided than opposed this Anti-Protestant party, and consequently are not entitled to our confidence—we do therefore devote our immediate exertions to secure the election of such persons as will speak our sentiments and feel in unison with us.

5th.—That as considerable changes have been made in the constituency by the enactments of the Irish Reform measure, it will be useful that the registration of voters under that act should be narrowly watched, to prevent as far as possible the evils which would otherwise be inflicted on the country.

6th.—That we have learned with much satisfaction that several most respectable professional gentlemen have tendered their gratuitous assistance in carrying forward these objects, and we trust that this sacrifice on their parts will stimulate the liberality of the Protestant community in their contribution toward defraying other useful and legal expenses.

7th.—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to carry into effect these objects, and to communicate with persons likely to come forward as Candidates, and to report the result of their communications to a future meeting to be convened by them, and that we do pledge ourselves to such Candidates at the ensuing elections as shall possess the confidence of the Protestant constituency.

Visct. Berchaven,	John Bowen,	B. O'Callaghan,
Hon. W. S. Bernard,	William C. Collins,	Nicholas Vincent,
R. Hedges Eyre,	Henry B. Mitchell,	Abraham Jago,
J. Smith Barry,	Samuel Townshend,	Rev. B. Ryder,
Robt. Courtenay,	Edward Hoare,	John Pratt,
Richard Smith,	William H. Keily,	George Chatterton,
John Longfield,	James J. Cummins,	Andrew Spring,
T. C. Kearney,	Richard Wood,	Peter Connelford,
Admiral Evans,	Henry M. Smith,	Richard H. Purcell,
A. B. Bernard,	Rev. R. D. Freeman,	Thomas Townsend,
Henry Q. Barry,	Samuel Townsend,	James Carnegie,
Sir Robt. Travers,	Adderly Beamish,	W. H. Harrington,
Wm. H. Horrick,	Coleman Hall,	George B. Low,
Joseph Lyeester,	R. H. H. Beelier,	Rev. J. C. Mongan,
Robert Davis,	T. Hungerford,	Rev. R. Davies,
George Courtenay,	Bernard R. Shaw,	John B. Gibb,
Simon White,	Chambre Croker,	John Bowen,
Simon Dring,	Thomas Knolles,	William H. Low,
Kilmer Brazier,	Robert Nettles,	Francis Sheering,

John L. Puxley,	John Travers,	William Crofts,
Abraham Morris,	John L. Puxley, jun.	Charles Perry,
S. Charles Oliver,	John Hawkes,	John Hawkes,
John Tansan Rye,	Osbome Savage,	Henry H. Pearde,
Sir Thomas Deane,	Joseph Garde,	James B. Ballard,
Manny H. Massey,	William Couper,	William Hobbs,
Henry Wallis,	Jonathan Hure,	Robert Berkeley,
Clement J. Foster,	James Hanning,	Richard B. Crouke,
Francis Rowland,	Rev. W. Chatterton.	

Proposed by the Rev. RICHARD DEAN FREEMAN, seconded by JAMES J. CUMMINS, Esq.—That those Noblemen and Gentlemen, who have nobly advocated the Protestant Interests of Ireland in both Houses of Parliament, have entitled themselves in the warmest gratitude of this Conservative Society; and we trust that they will find, not only in their own honesty of principle, but also in the gratitude of their Protestant Fellow-countrymen, that gratification and reward which will enable them to despise the base attacks of mercenary and place-hunting politicians; and we also feel that the Rev. Mr. Boyton has entitled himself, although not in Parliament, to be included in these our grateful acknowledgments.

BEERHAVEN, Chairman,  
O. E. BARBER, Secretary.

It was moved by JOHN S. BARRY, Esq., and seconded by JOSEPH LETCHER, Esq., that Lord Viscount Beerhaven do leave the Chair; and General Henry G. Barry being called there to, it was then Resolved.—That the thanks of this Meeting be and are hereby given to Lord Viscount Beerhaven, for his dignified and proper conduct in the Chair.

HENRY GREEN BARRY, Chairman.

Extract of Thomas's Evidence to the Inquiry into the Law and Practice  
in Respect to the Occupation of Land in Ireland

722.  
TOWNSEND, esq.

Thomas Townsend, esq., sworn and examined.

1. Where do you live?—Smithville, in the east division of West Carbery.
2. What is your occupation or employment?—I am a half-pay lieutenant in the navy; I have been agent to an aunt of mine for these nine or ten years back; and I have been in the habit of managing landed property.
3. What is the nature of the district with which you are best acquainted?—Almost the whole country is in tillage. The population is very great, and the mode of culture bad. Drainage is latterly getting more into practice among the farmers, but in general it is badly done for want of practice or knowledge. Rotation of crops there is none, with the exception of potatoes and corn alternately every year from time immemorial; the population being so great, and farms in general so small, they cannot well avoid it. The ground is naturally impoverished, and the general complaint is, it will not bear as it formerly did.
4. What is the description of the manures used?—Persons living near the sea use seaweed and sand, which in general bears good crops; those persons in the interior collect peat or turf mould in their yards for the cattle to trample on; those who can do so draw sand from a great distance, and mix it with the peat. A great number of them are not able to procure sand, but collect all they can of different materials in the mountains and turfy soil, which they burn, and the ashes give a good potato crop. The rent is generally a gross sum, at so much a gneove or half gneove, and seldom by the acre. The poor law is so differently valued on the different properties that it would be hard to tell the proportion that the rent bears to it. The poor law valuation was the most incorrect thing in the world. There is one tenant who pays a rent of £73 a year, in comfortable circumstances, and well paid, and a very decent respectable man, and they valued him at £50 a year; another man, who paid £36 a year, they valued him at £48—both of them yearly tenants, and it was out of the nature of things that the landlord should not know the value of the ground: if the £36 was worth £48, he would not be allowed to hold it at £36; but I could not get them to alter the valuation. With respect to the time of the payment of rent, many demand payment immediately on its coming due, and a great many others do not require it for a length of time after it becomes due. The mode of recovery is by distress on the lands. Whether under the proprietor or middlemen, I see little or no difference in the letting of lands. The proprietor, with few exceptions, requires as much from the cottager tenant and small

**BALTIMORE**, a village and sea-port (formerly an incorporated and parliamentary borough), in the parish of TULLAGH, Eastern Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 7 miles (S. W.) from Skibbereen; containing 459 inhabitants. This place is situated on a fine harbour to which it gives name in St. George's channel, and was anciently called Dunashad. It is supposed to have been a sanctuary of the Druids and one of the principal seats of the idolatrous worship of Baal, whence its present name, Beal-ti-mor, signifying, in the Irish language, "The Great Habitation of Beal," is probably derived. The village is situated on the eastern shore of the harbour, and immediately around the ruins of the ancient castle; and, though small, is rapidly increasing in size and importance. Several large and handsome houses have been recently erected, and others are in progress; and in 1833 a substantial pier was constructed at the joint expense of the Fishery Board and Lord Carbery. The trade of the port consists chiefly in the export of slate, copper-ore, flax, wheat, oats, and potatoes; and in the import of timber, iron, coal, salt, and general merchandise. The amount of duties paid at the custom-house for that year was £2059. 18. 6. The number of vessels registered as belonging to the port is 99, of the aggregate burden of 6426 tons. The custom-house is at Castle-Townsend, a distance of 10 miles from this place. The jurisdiction of the port extends from Galley Head, on the east, to Mill Cove on the west, and includes the creeks or harbours of Bearhaven, Bantry, Crookhaven, Baltimore, and Castle-Townsend, together with all rivers, bays, and creeks within its limits. The harbour is situated about seven miles (E. by N.) from the south-west point of Cape Clear, and is convenient for shipping bound either eastward or westward. The pier, though small, is a great accommodation to the fishermen as a landing-place on the mainland, for the fishery of Cape Clear; and a small quayage is collected for keeping it in repair. There are neither fairs nor markets. A coastguard station has been established here, which is one of the nine that constitute the district of Skibbereen. The parish church, a new and handsome building with a lofty square tower, is situated in the village: it was erected in 1819, and forms a very conspicuous and beautiful feature in the landscape, as seen from the harbour. A school-house for male and female children was built at the expense of Lord Carbery in 1832: and there is a dispensary for the benefit of the inhabitants of the numerous islands in the bay. The ruins of the castle, on the summit, of a lofty rock over the pier, and commanding every part of the harbour, are extensive and beautifully picturesque.

**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.

**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 applopped 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]. 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.

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

**SKIBBEREEN**, a market and post-town, partly in the parish of ABBEYSTROWRY, but chiefly in that of CREAGH, Eastern Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 42 miles (S. W.) from Cork, on the mail road to Bantry, and 167 1/4 (S. W.) from Dublin; containing 4429 inhabitants. In 1691, an engagement took place in the vicinity between the forces of Jas. II and Col. **Becher**\*, who commanded about 500 of the militia, when the former were put to flight, with the loss of 60 men and a large number of cattle. Three years afterwards, a party of 40 rapparees came into the town and plundered the custom-house, which belonged to the port of Baltimore, and killed two revenue officers. The town, from its situation in a wild, unenclosed part of the country, has frequently been the rendezvous of disaffected parties, but it has been much improved of late years, and is now a very flourishing place. It is situated on the southern bank of the river Ilen, and comprises seven streets; that part which extends into the parish of Abbeystrewry is called Bridgetown, and consists of three streets, one of which has been recently formed. The number of houses in the whole town is 1014, many of which, in the eastern part and in the parish of **Creagh\*\***, are large and well built: the approaches have been much improved by the formation of new lines of road at each extremity. This place had formerly a very considerable trade, arising from the manufacture of woollen cloth, linen, checks, and handkerchiefs, which has altogether declined: it is, however, very advantageously situated for trade in an extensive and improving district; the tide from the harbour of Baltimore flows up to the town, and the river is navigable for vessels of 200 tons' burden to Oldcourt, two miles below Skibbereen. In the town are capacious storehouses for corn, and a considerable quantity of flour is also exported from the mills of Mr. .J. Clark, on the bank of the Ilen, a quarter of a mile from the town. A porter brewery upon an extensive scale was established in 1809; it is the property of Daniel Mc Carthy, Esq., and is in full operation, many of the neighbouring towns being supplied from the establishment. The market days are Wednesday and Saturday, the former for the Bridgetown portion, and the latter, which is the principal market, for Staplestown. Milk and fuel are also exposed daily in the market-place for sale. The supply of provisions is very abundant, particularly fish and poultry: pigs and sheep are also sold in great numbers. The marketplace being small, and the market-house old and inconvenient, the articles brought for sale on the regular market-days are exposed in the public streets and in a place called the square. Fairs are held on May 14th, July 10th, Aug. 2nd, Oct. 12th, and Dec. 11th and 23rd; and petty sessions on Wednesdays. The sessions-house and bridewell is a large and handsome building in the Grecian style, occupying an elevated site near the entrance to the town from Cork. There is also an infantry barrack; and Skibbereen is the residence of the inspecting commander of the coast-guard stations of the district, of which it is the head, comprising those of Milkcove, Glandore, Castle-Townsend, Barlogue, Baltimore, Long Island, Crookhaven, Dunmanus, and Whitehorse, and extending from Sheep Head to Rosscarbery. The parochial church of Abbeystrewry is situated in Bridgetown; it is a large edifice in the early English style, with a tower at the east end, erected in 1827, at an expense of £1200, towards which £900 was contributed by the late Board of First Fruits. Parochial schools for boys and girls were erected near the church, in 1825, by the vicar; and an infants' school was built in 1835. There is also a Sunday school under the care of the Protestant clergyman.

\* *Col Becher was the father of Elizabeth who married Horatio Townsend [104]*

\*\* *Becher connections with Mary Townsend [121] and Edward [401].*