



**Muskogee Oklahoma autumn 1880.**

This picture is reproduced facing page 72 in Samuel's book "Our Indian Summer in the Far West". The man sixth in from the left and third in from the right are both dressed differently from everyone else and both have a ticket in their hatband. Could it be that the man on the left is Samuel and the man on the right is his travelling companion John George Hyde?





**Cruisers Race, Royal Cork Yacht Club Regatta  
17<sup>th</sup> June 1889**



Samuel's yacht 'Caterina' is incorrectly spelled in the caption.  
(Photo by courtesy of the Royal Cork Yacht Club)

# OUR INDIAN SUMMER

## IN THE FAR WEST.

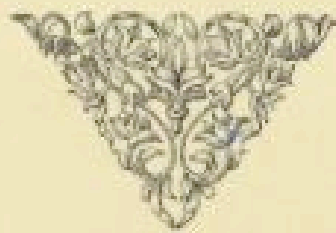


AN AUTUMN TOUR OF FIFTEEN THOUSAND MILES IN  
KANSAS, TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO,  
AND THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

BY S. NUGENT TOWNSHEND

[*"THE KAMIS" OF "THE FIELD"*].

ILLUSTRATED BY J. G. HYDE.



LONDON :

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1880.

# The Skeams

The two Skeam Islands, East and West, are very close to Heir Island. In the past they were interconnected socially, economically, geographically. All the residents of the Skeams had relations on Heir. They moved from the Skeams to Heir to marry and vice versa. The children went to school on Heir Island, coming across every morning and were collected again at three of clock. Sometimes the children from the Skeams stayed on Heir with relations during the school week, going home for the weekend.

They fished together; Ricky O'Regan of West Skeam always had his yawls pulled up high in Heir Island West because his own island has little shelter from winter gales. The Heir Island postmen delivered post to the Skeams twice a week.

Traditionally the belief was that the Skeam Islands got their name from a Saint Céim (Kame), supposedly a brother of Ciarán of Cape Clear. Daniel O'Donovan (in 'Sketches in Carbery') corroborates the local tradition about St. Céim.<sup>1</sup> However, no such person appears in the 'Calendar of Irish saints'. The Coppinger Inquisition of 1694 gives the name as 'Iniskeame' and Bishop Dive Downes, writing in 1699, calls them East and West Iniskeam. Canon O'Mahony, however, states that the islands belonged to the O'Mahonys and got their name from Cian, a popular O'Mahony name, and that the islands passed to the O'Driscolls under a marriage settlement between the two tribes. He wrote: 'The islands, now called the Skeams, were anciently named East and West Inniskean. They belonged to Ivagha.' (O'Mahonys of Mizen Peninsula)

The islands names, are West Inishcame and East Inishcame recorded in 1614, when the island was assessed as  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a ploughland in area and granted to Sir Walter Coppinger. They are called East and West Eniscame in the Book of Survey and Distribution, about 1641.<sup>2</sup> Historical written names for the island suggest that the name ends with an m (scame) or n as Canon O'Mahony refers to it, Iniscian, the island of Cian, Cian being a common O'Mahony name. It is impossible to be certain of the exact derivation. Certainly on Cape Clear and in Heir and Skeams, the tradition was very strong that there was a St. Céim (Kame), a brother of Ciarán, which would suggest that there was a church here in pre-Patrician times. On Cape Clear, the local belief that Ciarán preceded St. Patrick has been nearly certainly established by historical research, mainly done by Dr. Éamon Langford. *St. Kéim*<sup>3</sup> was the name of an O'Regan mackerel boat, built in Peel in the Isle of Man, in the 1890s.

West Skeam, although blessed with fertile soil, is much more inaccessible than East Skeam, in that there is no good mooring place for boats. Like Heir, finding good drinking water was a problem, especially in dry summers when the inhabitants had to resort to getting water on East Skeam, where there was a well

### Extracts from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

**BLACKROCK**, a chapelry, in the parish of ST. FINBARR, county of the city of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 2 1/4 miles (E. S. E.) from Cork: the population is included in the return for the parish. This place is beautifully situated on a peninsula bounded on the north and east by the river Lee, and on the south by Lough Mahon and the Douglas channel. Numerous advantages resulting from its proximity to Cork; the beauty of its situation, the salubrity of its climate, and the excellent accommodations for bathing, have rendered this one of the most desirable places of residence in the South of Ireland. It has a penny post to Cork, and the railroad from Cork to Passage will; if carried into effect, pass through the village. The scenery is of the most varied and pleasing character, exhibiting numerous elegant villas and cottages, with lawns, gardens, and plantations reaching down to the margin of the Lee, which is here a noble expanse of water more than a mile broad, constantly enlivened by steam-boats and other vessels. The land is naturally very fertile, and is for the most part enclosed in lawns, gardens, and pleasure grounds; the rest, deriving from its contiguity to Cork an abundant supply of rich manures, and having the advantage of inexhaustible quarries of limestone and plenty of sea sand, is in a high state of cultivation, and supplies the Cork market with a large proportion of its vegetables. The substratum is limestone of excellent quality, which is extensively quarried for various purposes. Between the fissures of the rocks, near its junction with the clay-slate, are found numerous amethystine crystals, some of which are very large and clustery, and all are beautifully coloured; one specimen in the Cork Royal Institution weighs more than 40lb. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, serves as a chapel of ease to the cathedral church of St. Finbarr, Cork, and was built in 1827, at an expense of £2100, of which £900 was given by the late Board of First Fruits, £100 by the corporation of Cork, and the remainder, with the exception of a few local subscriptions and the sale of pews, was defrayed by the dean and chapter, who appoint and pay the curate. It is a handsome edifice of hewn limestone, in the later style of architecture, with a tower crowned with battlements and pinnacles, and surmounted by a spire 60 feet high, which, with part of the tower and the western portion of the nave, was destroyed by lightning on Jan. 29th, 1836, but has been restored by aid of a grant of £310 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. A school-house connected with St. Michael's chapel was erected at Ballintemple in 1836; a school for boys was built in 1834, at an expense of £160, of which two-thirds were contributed by the National Board, and the remainder by J. Murphy, Esq., of Ring-Mahon Castle; and there is a school for girls, supported by subscription. Here is a dispensary, and near Ballintemple are two private lunatic asylums. Cittadella, belonging to Joshua Bull, Esq., was established by the late Dr. Hallaran\*, in 1798, and has secluded pleasure grounds for the use of the patients. Lindville belongs to Dr. Osborne, and is pleasantly situated in a demesne of 14 acres. A temperance society was established in 1835. At the village of Ballintemple, situated on this peninsula, the Knights Templars erected a large and handsome church in 1392, which, after the dissolution of that order, was granted, with its possessions, to Gill abbey. At what period it fell into decay is uncertain; the burial ground is still used.

\* *See the entry for Horatio Townsend [607].*

**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. Near the R. C. chapel are large school-houses, built by the late Dr. Collins, which are supported by the National Board. A dispensary is maintained in the customary manner. There are numerous large and handsome houses near the town, the principal of which are noticed in the description of Abbeystrewry.

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

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

### **Transcripts of two letters from Samuel to Edward Mansel Townsend [630] concerning the sale of the Castletownshend Estate**

4th. June 1897.

Brunswick Lodge, Kew.

My dear Edward,

Some time ago I very carefully considered the subject you bring before me & came to the conclusion that the family could only secure Castletownshend by forming themselves into a limited liability company. That could have been done and, even with the very short time available, still could be effected but having got Castletownshend what to do with it is a question almost inexplicable to answer as it never can be a paying investment; therefore getting it would mean getting it for the purpose of continuing it as a family residence and then the question comes - for whom? I am very fond of Mrs. Mundy, more so than any member of the family and for this and other reasons consider her interests and her feelings first and so far from pressing her to sacrifice her income or any part of it for the purpose of retaining a demesne and residence that Maurice could not keep up even in the most humble way, I do not see my way to do. If Maurice were a rising soldier or sailor of fortune, if there was the remotest chance of his even marrying well or if he was almost anything but what he is I would not seek to dissuade Mrs. Mundy from sacrificing her present income for the benefit of his future one. Had he instead of Mrs. Mundy been left Castletownshend it would have been sold long since in the middle of the non-rent paying era and would not have left him anything or even paid its charges. Mrs. Mundy nursed the estate through that troublesome time which nearly brought all the Cork Townshends to ruin & I am not sure that even without selling the house and demesne it will sell for enough to pay off all the charges. I see nothing to be gained of permanent advantage to the family by Mrs. Mundy encumbering and perhaps sacrificing her Kerry property, for if Castletownshend is not sold now it is fairly certain it will be by Maurice or Hubert later on. Neither of them would try to help themselves or get on or try to get into any position that could justify the family in making sacrifice for them. I don't want to be hard on the boys but from what I've seen of them I don't see how I can avoid taking them into consideration in connection with this matter which to no member of the old clan is more sad and shocking than to myself. But as I commenced by saying it would even sadden me more to think that in an unavailing endeavour to keep the family seat in the family dear Mrs. Mundy should have to live on a reduced income and deny herself any of the comfortable surroundings which she has grown into and which she so well becomes and ornaments. Look at Hollybrook and how the attempt made to keep that in the Becher family ended. For twenty years the struggle went on badly crippling the finances of John Becher of Loughine being a serious loss to Sir John and finally getting

into the hands of a Skibbereen shopkeeper. I must now post this at once without having time to re read or punctuate it but we may send it to Mrs. Mundy if you wish but not to anyone else. Truly yrs. **S. Nugent Townshend.**

7th June 1897

Brunswick Lodge, Kew, London.

My dear Edward,

I was glad to get your letter this morning with Mrs. Mundy's to be re-enclosed herewith. I also had a letter from her by the same post. All the branches of the family having property in Cork have been hit so often and so hard by the Land Commissioners since 1870, that I don't believe even five of them have £1,000 each that they could invest. Your figures appear to be accurate on the basis of the whole being £5,000 a year, but I fear taxes & rates have to be deducted to the extent of nearly £1,000 a year, leaving a nett £4,000 which at 17 years purchase would be £68,000 thus leaving only a margin of £3,000 after the sale. It is at any rate clear that Maurice & Hubert could if they wished put in £7,000 to join with Mundy in the purchase of the Demesne, and if they, the next heirs will not move in the matter effectively they can scarcely expect the remoter branches to pinch themselves in the matter, even if pinching ourselves would avail, which Mrs Mundy appears to agree with and it would not. Hubert perhaps has some offer from Maurice to Mrs. Mundy, I hope so, for I see no other effective combination possible. Ever yrs. **S. Nugent Townshend.**

**Transcript of a telegram from Samuel to Edward Mansel Townsend [630] concerning Elise Townsend [443] and the Whitehall family portraits**

4th December 1898.

TELEGRAMS: "UNVARIED, LONDON."

City of London Club, Old Broad Street. E.C.

My dear Edward,

I was glad to hear from you last evening. History is history, and we cannot recall the past, much as most of us - at any rate you & I - have been "done" out of many things. We must only be thankful for what we have, and have got, for although the old Lady (*Elise, second wife of Rev Samuel Townsend [443]*) often promised me her pictures in the presence of large dinner parties, of which she always requested me to take the head of the table. I must say I never believed she would leave me any of them or anything else, or any one of our family anything, and I am particularly glad that she remembered your sister May, when she to say the least of it was not kind to previously in word or deed. ....I don't think I shall go to the old lady's sale, even if - which is unlikely - anyone told me when and where it was to be (which is improbable) at any rate it would only vex me to see the black and white and other sketches of the family which I should have got as its head and by the old lady's will sold. The reason I did not oppose the will (though I was anxious to upset the codicil) was that if the upsetting of the latter involved the upsetting of the former, and the old lady proved illegitimate the whole estate would revert to the Crown, General and all (*the Gainsborough portrait of Samuel [403]?*) and this would be a specially bad blow for her branch of the Whitehalls, for of course you know that the property of an illegitimate person dying intestate goes to the Crown. My eyes are not good so excuse more from yours always sinc'ly **S.Nugent Townshend.**

## Samuel's Entry in Who Was Who 1929

**TOWNSHEND, Samuel Nugent, J.P., Co. Cork;** F.R.G.S.; *e. s.* of Samuel Townshend, J.P. of St. Kames Island, Co. Cork, and Charlotte, *d.* of Edward Becher; *b.* 1844; *m.* 1886, Henrietta, *d.* of late Captain Anthony Morgan of Prospect Hill, Co. Cork. *Educ.:* Queen's University, Ireland. Nominated by British Commission at Philadelphia, 1876, to represent England on a delegation consisting of one representative of each of the great Powers of Europe to report on agriculture and travel in the Western States of America; wrote about 400 columns on these subjects, as St. Kames to The Field, and other papers. *Publications:* Colorado, 1879; Our Indian Summer, 1880. *Recreations:* yachting and clockmaking. *Address:* 6 Sussex Place, Southsea, Hants. *Clubs:* Authors'; Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes; Royal Albert Yacht, Southsea. [Died 16 Dec. 1910.]

## Example of Samuel's Notes on the Whitehall Branch of the Family

Townsend, Townshend, or  
Tounsesendes of Whitehall.

The Whitehall property having  
gone in the female line its  
family armiments and <sup>archives</sup> ~~records~~  
have as recorded in the last  
Edition but one of Burke's  
Landed Gentry<sup>①</sup> appear to have  
absolutely vanished, and though  
now the lineal head of the family,  
I can only afford such information  
as was verbally given me by  
my Father, who was born in 1800,  
and was a man of most accurate  
and detailed memory. Edward, <sup>"splendid head"</sup>

*Note his variations on the spelling of Townsend*

## DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL NUGENT TOWNSHEND, F.R.G.S.

Mr. Samuel Nugent Townshend died on Friday at his residence in Southsea. He was the eldest son of Mr. Samuel Townshend, of St. Kames Island, Co. Cork, and was born in 1844 and educated at the Queen's University, Ireland. In 1878 he was nominated by the British Commission at Philadelphia to represent England on an international delegation, whose mission it was to report on Agriculture and Travel in the Western States of America. On these subjects he wrote many articles in the "Field" and other journals under the signature "St. Kames." He also published "Colorado" (1879) and "Our Indian Summer" (1890). He married in 1886 Henrietta, daughter of Captain Anthony Morgan, of Prospect Hill, County Cork. Mr. Nugent Townshend was a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron and the Royal Albert Yacht Club, Southsea.

## Death of Captain Anthony Morgan

### CREDITORS.

IN THE GOODS OF ANTHONY MORGAN  
LATE OF BUNALUN, SKIBBEREEN,  
IN THE COUNTY OF CORK, CAPT.  
(RETIRED), in her late Majesty's  
Army, (DECEASED).

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to the Statute 22nd and 23rd Vic., Chap. 35, that all persons claiming to be Creditors, or otherwise to have any claims or demands against the assets of the said ANTHONY MORGAN, who died on or about the 15th day of February, 1907, are hereby required on or before the 20th of October, 1907, to furnish (in writing) the particulars of such claims or demands to the undersigned solicitors for William Tower Townshend, of Derry, Rosscarbery, in the County of Cork, Justice of the Peace, the Executor named in the Will of Deceased and to whom Probate of said Will was granted forth of the Principal Registry of the High Court of Justice in Ireland, King's Bench Division (Probate), on the 22nd July, 1907, and Notice is hereby given that after the said 20th day of October, 1907, the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of said deceased, having regard only to the claims of which Notice and Particulars shall have been so given.

Dated this 10th day of September, 1907.  
THOMAS DOWNES AND COMPANY  
Solicitors for said Executor, 13,  
Wellington Quay, Dublin, and  
Skibbereen.