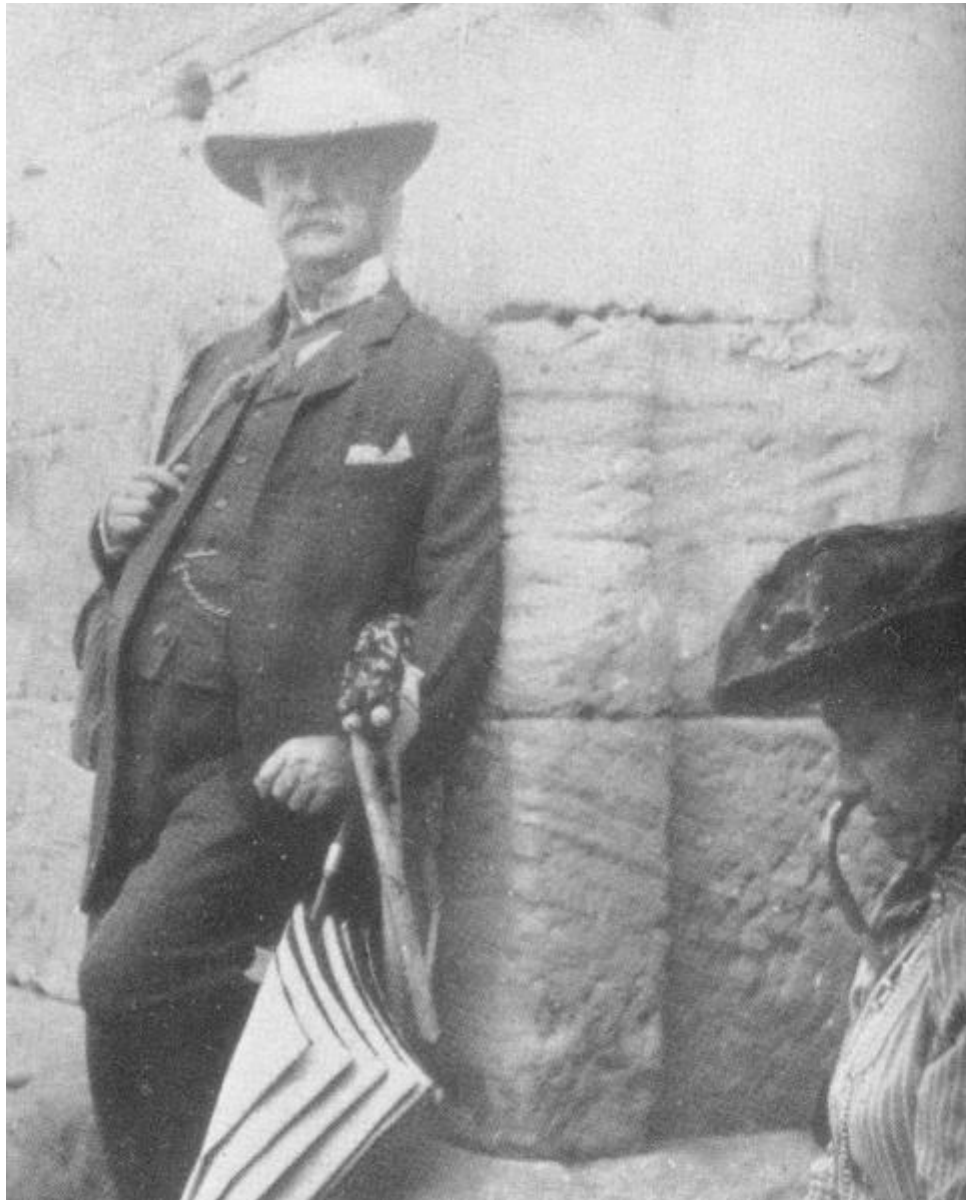


Horace Payne Townshend [5D12]

Horace and Mary (?) in Morocco



Horace, Charlotte and Hugh Cholmondeley



Derry ca 1900
Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

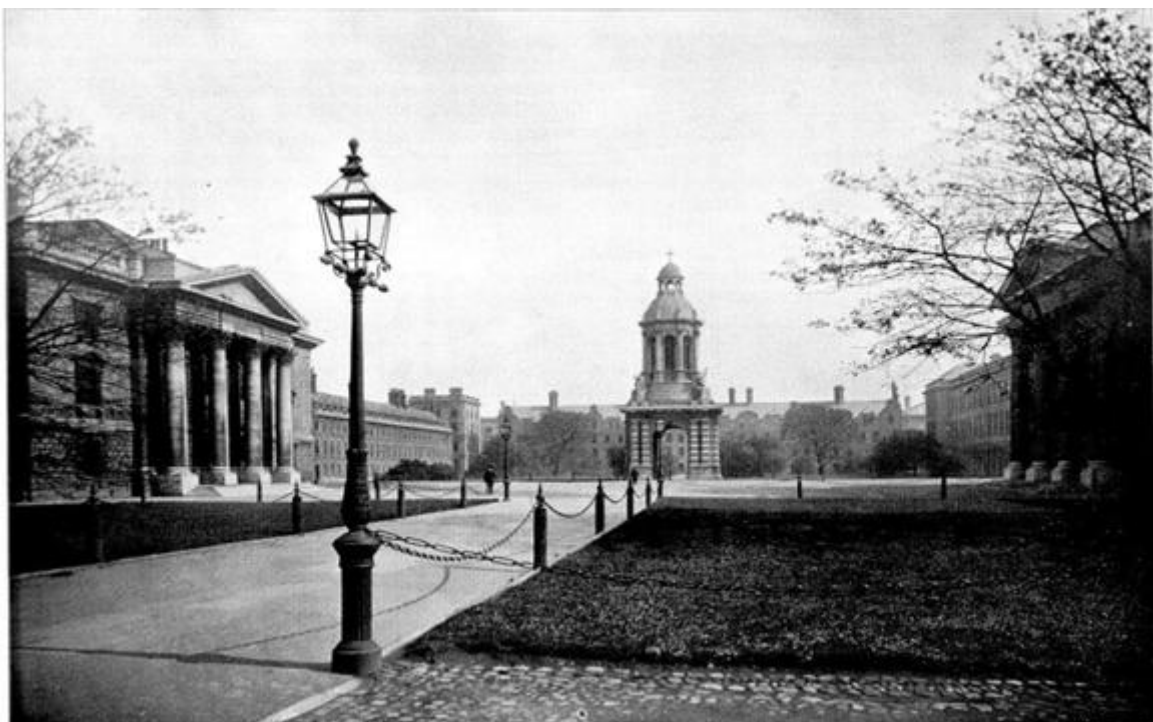


Painting of Derry House





Trinity College, Dublin



ROSSCARBERY, a market and post-town and parish, and the seat of the diocese of Ross, partly in the barony of IBANE and BARRYROE, and partly in the Western Division of the barony of EAST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 32 miles (S. W.) from Cork, and 158 (S. W.) from Dublin on the road from Cork to Skibbereen; containing 8714 inhabitants, of which number, 1522 are in the town. The town, which is wholly within the Western Division of East Carbery, is situated on the southern coast, at the head of an extensive creek called Ross harbour, and occupies the summit of a gentle eminence; it consists principally of a square and four small streets, containing 282 houses, mostly of indifferent appearance, and retains but few vestiges of its ancient importance. The manufacture of coarse linen was formerly carried on to a very considerable extent, but has latterly greatly diminished, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture and in fishing. Near the town are the extensive flour-mills of Mr. Lloyd, in which more than 5000 barrels of fine flour are annually made. The harbour, situated about half a mile to the west of Dundedy Head, occasionally affords shelter to small vessels, but only in moderate weather; the entrance is nearly dry at low water, and at high water it is rocky and dangerous, especially when the wind is from the sea. On the bar are ten feet at high water of spring, and eight feet at neap, tides. The harbour itself is almost useless from a ridge of sand hills which has accumulated nearly to the height of 12 feet, and extends across the entrance, leaving only a channel of a few yards in breadth on the west side, through which the tide rushes with great rapidity. The inner bay, which is more than a mile in length and about half a mile broad, is, on the receding of the tide, a dry firm sand, and might be reclaimed at a moderate expense. A new line of road has been carried across the bay by a raised causeway, 400 yards long, and connected with the mainland by a bridge at its western extremity. The bay is celebrated for the great numbers of silver eels which are taken in it during the summer months. The market is on Wednesday, but is indifferently supplied; and fairs are held on Aug. 26th, and the 19th of Sept. and Dec. The market-house is an old building in the centre of the square. A constabulary police force is stationed here, and at Milk Cove is a coast-guard station, which is one of the three that constitute the district of Skibbereen. Petty sessions are held every Wednesday, and a court for the manor of Ross every three weeks, at which debts not exceeding 40s. are recoverable. The court-house is a very neat building; adjoining it is the police barrack.

The parish comprises 12,535 statute acres, of which 1288 are tithe-free; about three-fourths of the land are arable, and the remainder, with the exception of a portion of bog and waste, is in pasture. The surface is very uneven, rising in some parts into hills of considerable elevation: the soil, though light, is fertile; but, except on the lands of Mr. Townsend (*Probably William Townsend [504], an accomplished agriculturalist, who died in 1816*) and other resident gentlemen who have adopted every improvement in husbandry and the use of the best farming implements, the system of agriculture is in a very backward state: much of the land is cultivated by the spade, and manure is carried to the field on the backs of horses. Several large slate quarries have been opened, of which some produce slate of very superior quality; and copper ore and manganese abound in almost every part, but no efficient means are employed to work them to advantage. The principal seats are Cahirmore, the residence of T. Hungerford*, Esq.; Derry, of the Rev. H. Townsend*** (*Rev Horatio Townsend [5D00]*); Castle Downeen, of R. Smith, Esq.; Milleen, of the Rev. W. Jennings; Millfield, of Lieut. Lloyd, R.N.; Farley Cottage, of T. Hungerford**, Esq.; and The Hill, of Capt. W. Starkie. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Ross, partly appropriate to the vicar choral, and partly to the dean and chapter, in trust for the economy fund of the cathedral: the tithes amount to £776. 19. 4., of which £434. 0. 11. is payable to the vicar choral, and £342. 18. 5. to the dean and chapter. About 130 children are taught in five public schools, of which the parochial male school is supported by the dean and chapter and the vicar choral; the parochial female school-house was built by Lord Carbery; and an infants' school is supported by Miss Townsend [5D10]. There are also four private schools, in which are about 120 children; and two Sunday schools. The Rev. S. Jervois, in 1786, bequeathed £400, the interest of which is annually divided among the Protestant poor, and £10 annually, which is paid as apprentice fees with the most deserving boy and girl in the Sunday school. The Rev. T. Hoare, the present vicar choral, has also given by deed £500, the interest of which is annually divided among the most necessitous poor of the parish. On an island which was formerly joined to the mainland are the ruins of Downeen castle; and at Ballyvoureen are the remains of an ancient house in the Elizabethan style, formerly the residence of the Copinger family. At Temple Faughnan, about a mile and a half from the town, are the ruins of a house erected by the Knights Templars in 1301, and modernised in 1712. Adjoining the town are the remains of the abbey founded by St. Faughnan: the side walls of the choir of the church, rudely built of unhewn stone, are still standing; on the south side are the remains of a circular arch, and adjoining the ruin is the tomb of the Rev. J. Power, who died in 1831: it is much resorted to by

pilgrims. In the south wall of the cathedral is an old carved head, said to be that of St. Faughnan. Banduff castle, built by the O'Donovans, and afterwards called Castle Salem, was an extensive building with a walled park and more than 300 acres of oak wood, all now destroyed. In the grounds of Tinneel are the remains of a cromlech. The **Rev. Horace Townsend***** [5D00], author of the Statistical Survey of the county of Cork, is resident at Derry, in this parish.

* *Hungerford connections with Barbara Townsend [210] and Richard Townsend [315].*

** *Catherine daughter of Mary Townsend [506], who married Thomas Somerville, married Thomas Hungerford of Farley Cottage.*

*** *Horace's grandfather.*

**Transcript of correspondence between John Townsend [622] and Edward Hume Townsend [626]
concerning Horace as an absentee landlord**

April 16. 1874.

Cuilnaconartha, Clonakilty,

My dear John,

Your letter of 5th December now before me gave me the first account of your projected change of residence, and your future plans: by this time you are I trust pleasantly settled in your new abode. Your dwelling is I believe in or near Clapham, which used to be rather a pleasant, almost, country, village: now I suppose that like other places near London, it swarms with Railways..... One very worthy member of our family has I am afraid fixed himself permanently at Nice (Rich'd M.T.)([236]). The Derry family (ie Horace's) have migrated to England - for how long, we do not know - and the Myross family will I fear follow their example: with the last named, we have had very little intercourse, but I always regret the increase of absentee landlords.....Lucy(?) has been remarkably well thank God since her return home, and is now one of the busiest persons in the house: Susan has not been very well of late -: The weather is now becoming warm and bright, which I trust will help to restore her: she unites with me in love to dear Minny and your young folk, who I hope will find London agree with them -: I am my dear John, affectionately yours **E.H.Townsend.**

June 11. 1874.

Cuilnaconartha, Clonakilty,

My dear John,

I hope that you have more nearly reached the state of "permanently settled" than you had, when you wrote on 20th April, and that you are not now living a bachelor life, as you were then. First then regarding your visit to Ireland, I hope that we shall have room enough for you as well as a warm welcome.....I hope that the Derry family (ie Horace's) will return to Ireland: the only question is when? - I fear that the case of J.T. (*John Hancock Townsend* [523]) of Myross is less hopeful: I truly hope that these two houses will not long remain vacant, - their families will be much missed in that neighbourhood. I am very glad to read your testimony to Frank Candy's character: I remember him almost from the cradle -: his parents were (his Mother is still) very old friends of ours: for his father we both had the highest esteem. - Farewell my dear John -: with love from our trio, to dear Minny, & all your young people. I am affectionately yours **E.H.Townsend.**

Transcript of a letter from Horace's wife following his death to Aubrey Townsend [621]

February 12th 1885.

21 Queens Gate, S.W.

Dear Aubrey,

Thank you so very much for your kind letter. I knew you would feel for us, as Horace was always your friend, and he well knew your worth; and your unselfish and heavy sacrifices for those of your family nearest to you always roused his interest. We have so often talked so much of you I feel as if you were peculiarly associated with him.

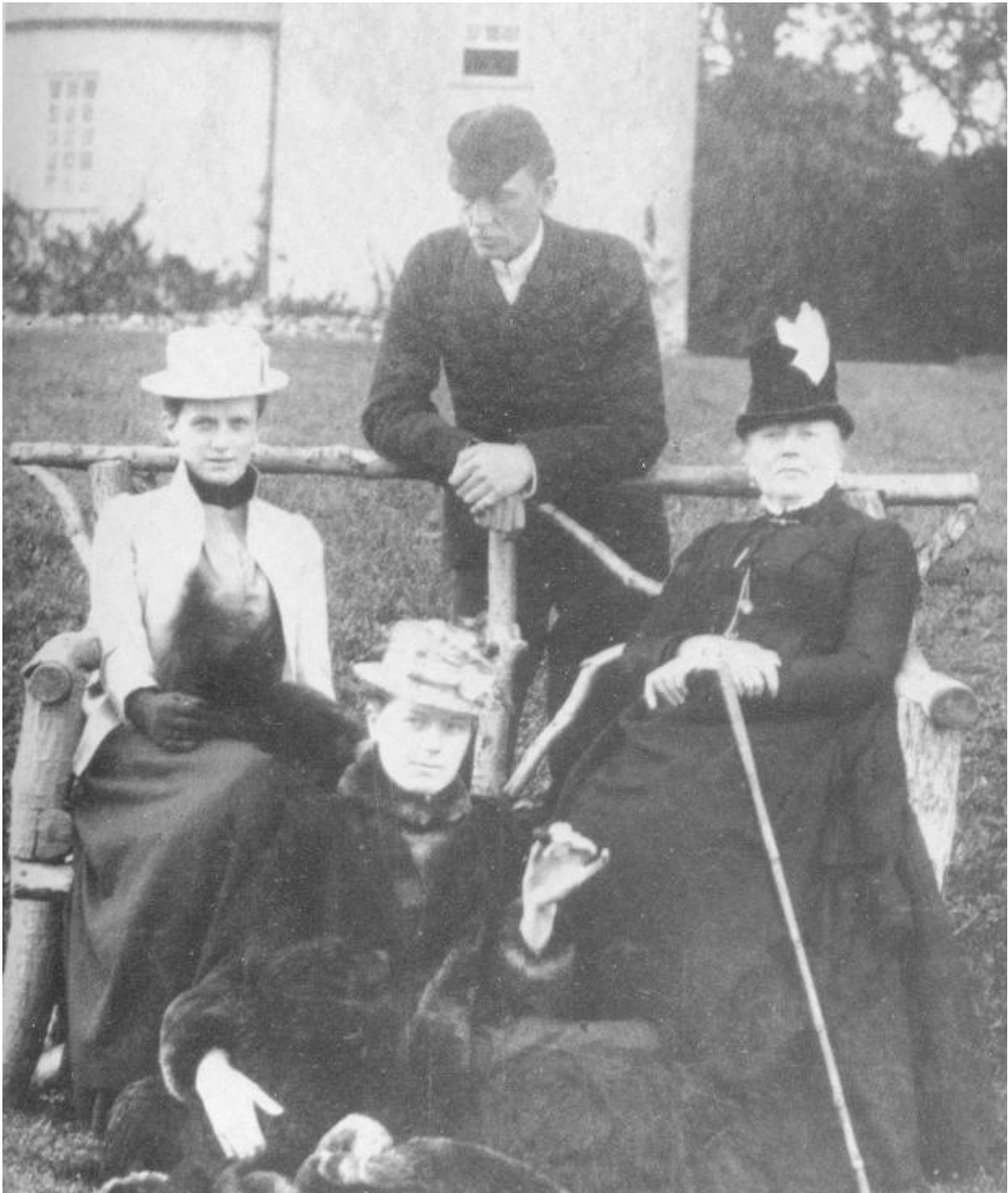
The blow was very sudden; and though we all knew it must be so in the end, as the doctors always warned us there was extensive heart-disease besides the disease of the liver, he seemed so well and strong it was hard to believe that he would not live many years.

He wished to be buried very quietly in Shropshire if he died in England as he knew it would be my chosen home if I survived him and my burial-place, and I hope it may be so. Only yesterday I found this and several other memorials written through several years for my guidance if he died first.

There is much to do in various ways. The Irish Property of course is the most pressing business. I saw my solicitors who are also the trustees of my marriage-settlement at Chester on my way to Edstaston, and on talking over the matter I find they must transact my part of the business, as they advanced my money to pay off charges on Derry. With kind regards from my daughters ever your aff'e. Cousin M. Payne Townshend.

Left to Right

Maria, Charlotte, Hugh Cholmondeley, Mary Payne Townshend at Derry



Saturday.

27th September 1884

Derry
Ross Farbery
Co. Cork

My dear John

I am very sorry indeed that you have trouble about opening the fire proof safe. Richard told me how it was opened 2 or 3 years ago, when he looked and opened it in my presence, and told me at the time that nobody could open it unless they knew the clue, that is, the position of the 4 letters when last it was locked: He then told me he was in the habit for his own convenience of using 4 letters that spelt cert. in simple words, and that "favourite words" with him were "make", also "face", & "chat" (cat)

I do not remember any other words he mentioned, but I told him he ought to leave

Masonic Lodge Concert

GRAND MASONIC CONCERT,

(Conducted by

BROTHER W. P. O'DONOGHUE)

To be given in Aid of the FAILING FUNDS of
the

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM

CORK.

ON THURSDAY EVENING,

2TH OF APRIL, 1863, AT THE

NEW LECTURE HALL,

MARDYKE, SKIBBEREEN.

THIS CONCERT will take place under the
following PATRONAGE:—

George Chatterton, Esq., D.P.G.M. of Munster.
Thomas Somerville, Esq., J.P., D.L., High Sheriff
of the County.

The O'Donovan, J.P., Montpelier, Cork.
Richard Henry Hedges Becher, Esq., J.P., Lake-
lands.

Lionel John Fleming, Esq., J.P., Newcourt.
William H. Hull, Esq., J.P., Lemcon Manor.
Richard Becher Hungerford, Esq., J.P., Bally-
rizard.

Thomas Somerville, Esq., J.P., The Prairie.
Horace Townshend, Esq., J.P., Derry.
John Richard Hedges Becher, Esq., J.P., Lough
Ine.

Samuel Richard Townsend, Esq., J.P., White
Hall.

John Limrick, Esq., J.P., Union Hall.
Sir John Arnott, M.P., Cork.
Francis Bennett, Esq., J.P., Clonakilty.

James L. Holmes, Esq., J.P., Carrigmote.
George Robinson, Esq., J.P., Coronea.
Richard Nötter, Esq., J.P., Skull.

Major Herbert, G andora.
Thomas Attridge, Esq., Castletownsend.
Philip J. Attridge, Esq., do.

Major Gillman, Clonakilty.
William Warren, Esq., Clontarf.
Colonel Somerville, Ma maison, Castletownsend.

Henry Hungerford, Esq., P.M., Skibbereen.
James E. Somerville, Esq., M.D., Union Hall.
Edward Powell, Esq., Banlahan.

William L. Perrier, Esq., Jun., Cork.
Thomas Jarmyn, Esq., Cork.
James Swanton, Esq., Loriga.

William B. Baldwin, Esq., J.P., Rock Cottage.
Doctor Hobart, Cork.
Doctor Limrick, Union Hall.