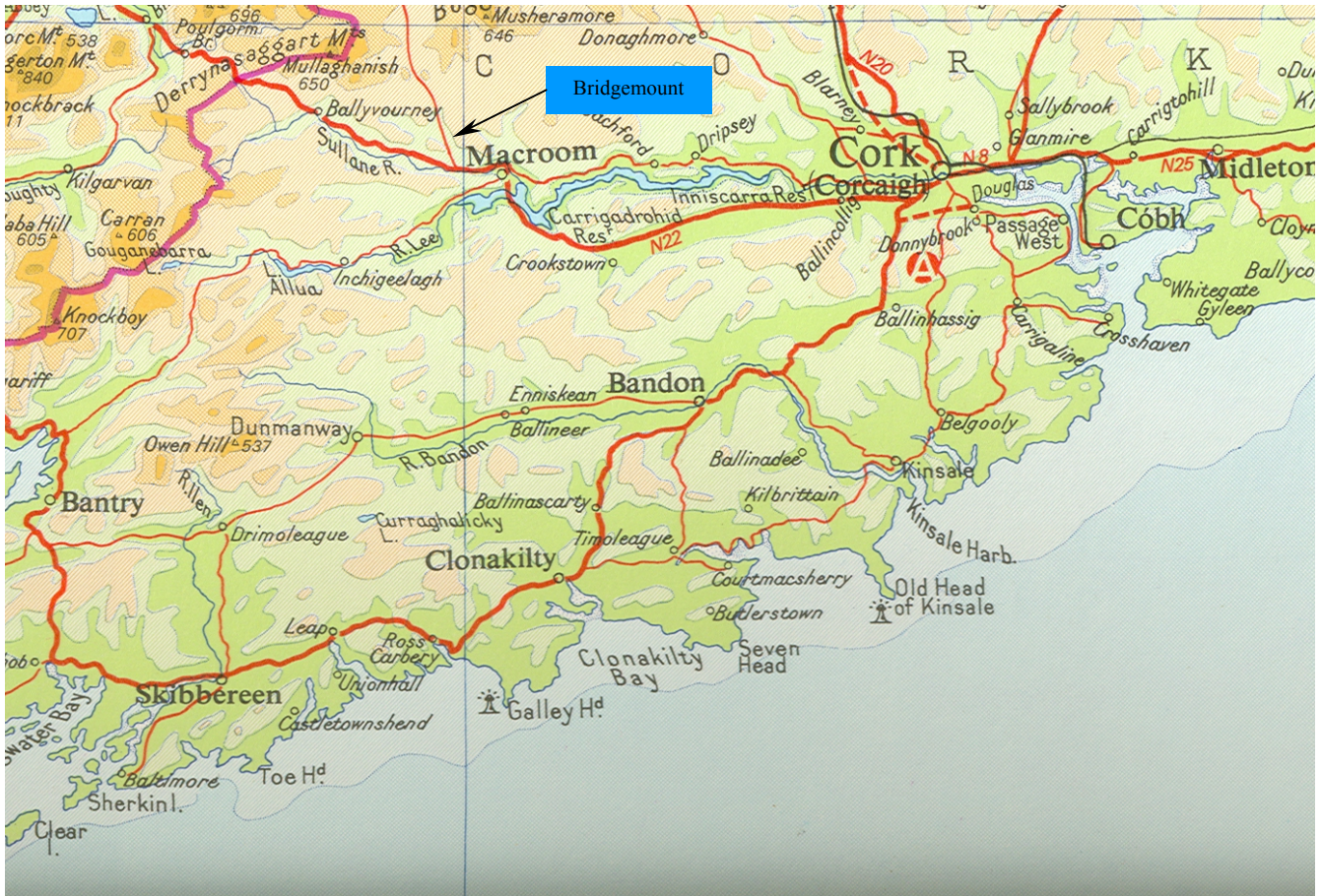


Horatio Townsend [623]



Transcript of a letter from Aubrey Townsend [621] to John Townsend [622] concerning the problems with Horatio

Wensd. February 10th 1864.

Lona, Weston super Mare,

My dearest Jack,

I enclose Hamilton's note to me of last Saturday, with a line from Horace to him of this day week, and a copy of my answer, in reference to Horace, of this day. I hope I may not seem to you to have said too much, but I strongly feel what I have written. In our private minds I think we cannot be too thankful that a person of Hamilton's honesty & accuracy is looking after H's money affairs, & a person of his zealous kindness looking after his bodily infirmities and general comfort. All this far exceeds Hamilton's general duty as H's agent, and involves much (as Hamilton has said) that is very troublesome, and very trying to him. In ordinary course it would devolve on ourselves to do what Hamilton is doing; but H's alienation from us, and great distance render this very difficult. Hamilton's zeal in the matter, I have no doubt, will be much quickened by knowing that we feel obliged by what he is doing. And so, regarding his necessary pecuniary advances to meet H's illness & other necessities, it might be exceedingly unadvised to give any promise of future repayment, but Hamilton would of course feel himself in a very difficult position in making such advances, knowing that he had our good will in doing so, from what would be the case if our feelings were cold, & he had neither sympathy nor good will from us. With regard to my or your writing to H., I feel that in his present state one would wish, if possible, to open communion with him, either by letter or personally. Even for appearance sake in the eyes of others this might be desirable. I do not imagine, in H's weak state, there is at all the risk of his writing unpleasantly, that there would have been (say) two or three years ago. Always hitherto, when sick or weak, bitter feelings have been softened; & he has spoken or written in a kinder tone. This was the case in October 1851, when Madre (?) commun'd to him the contents of our brother Edward's ([620]) will. H. replied in a kind reasonable tone, being at the time very unwell; on which account, shortly after, I went to him in Dublin. On the other hand I have felt that, under all the circumstances of Hamilton's close intercourse with, and even guardianship of H. (so to speak), it would be scarcely well advised, & possibly not fair to Hamilton (as we only know of H's illness

through him) if we were to write without previous commun'n with him. It seemed to me that the asking Hamilton his opinion can do us no harm, & may tend to good. As matters now stand, I begin to look on either of us visiting Dublin as a question open to consideration. Partly in regard to the reality of the case, partly of the appearance to others, I a good deal incline to it. I believe I could well do it between Sunday & Sunday. I feel that in the event of very serious illness, which easily might take place at any time, and might even be very rapid, it would have been satisfactory that one of us had been in Dublin & had seen him, & been cognisant of arrangements for his comfort. How do you view this? You'd partly deal with this in writing to me, & we'd also talk it over when we meet, D.V., next week. I could start Monday week, 22nd inst., to return by Sat'y 27th. With best love to Min, most affectionately Aubrey Townsend.

Transcript of a letter from Samuel Townsend [6A03] to John Townsend [622]

February 18th. 1864.

Garrygloyne,

My dear John,

I was very sorry to hear that my old friend Horace is very unwell. I hope to hear a better account of him from you. We have had a severe loss here, one of my sons Horace ([6A13]) has been taken from us after a short illness, and of course, we have felt it very much. I hope your wife and family are well and also your brother Aubrey ([621]). Mrs. T. joins in best regards, - Believe me yours &c.

S. P. Townsend.

Transcript of a letter from Aubrey Townsend [621] to John Townsend [622]

Monday February 22nd 1864.

Lona, Weston super Mare,

My dearest Jack,

This morning brought me your despatch of Friday describing the removal of poor brother Horace on Friday to the "Pension Medicale". My recent notes, especially my last of Saturday, will have conveyed to you my really deep felt satisfaction with that very judicious arrangement on your part, and my devout thankfulness for the happy way in which God's merciful providence the whole has been brought to so good an issue. The whole must have cost you a good deal of anxiety as well as labour and painstaking. I certainly would not have brought it about in the very effective manner that you evidently have, and in which your experience enables you to do anything of the kind.....Very kind of S.P.T (*Samuel Townsend [6A03]*) of Garrygloyne in his real affliction, writing to you about Horace, to whom he has for some years shown such very marked kindness, that I am exceedingly glad of your and his commns. having paper at this time about poor H.....Regarding the ideas I threw out last week for your considern., of possible modes of making the in-comings on behalf of poor H. square with the outgoings, they have been of course altogether superseded for some days past by the admirable arrangement which you have made about the "Pension" and the full understanding with Hamilton about our repaying his advances, & about all finance matters.....We shall be glad in this house to hear of your movements & probable time of return. Ever most affectionately Aubrey Townsend.