

## **Superintendent John Towerson**

**By Brian Starkey**

John TOWERSON was born in Beckermont, Cumberland in 1810, the son of John TOWERSON, a farmer.

He married, Bridget Tyson (nee Banks) a widow at St. Paul's Church Liverpool on, 6th. September 1846. At this time he was already a police Superintendent and lived at Rose Place.

He was dismissed from Liverpool City Police on 4th. March 1852 along with Head Constable Dowling for removing a report from a Bridewell Book and replacing it with another. See: [Head Constable Dowling](#)

Soon after his dismissal from Liverpool City Police the following articles appeared in the local media:-

### **Liverpool Mercury May, 21st, 1852**

#### **Testimonial to Mr TOWERSON**

The friends of Mr TOWERSON, late divisional superintendent of the police, have resolved to raise a subscription with the view of establishing him in business. We understand that, up to the occurrence of the unfortunate circumstances which led to the abrupt termination of Mr TOWERSON'S connection with the police, his conduct had been irreproachable, as proved by the fact that he had gradually been promoted from the lowest to almost the highest position in the force.

### **Liverpool Mercury August 27th, 1852**

On Wednesday evening, Mr TOWERSON, late divisional superintendent of the police, received a testimonial in the shape of a handsome silver goblet, and a purse containing upwards of £40. The proceedings took place at the house of Mr LINACRE, the Castle Inn North, Scotland Rd. Between 30 and 40 of Mr TOWERSON'S friends sat down to dinner on the occasion, under the presidency of Mr Thomas WATSON, and the vice presidency of Mr John ROBERTS. The chairman on behalf of the subscribers presented the testimonial in an eloquent speech, and Mr TOWERSON made a suitable reply. Several toasts, interspersed with songs, were given in the course of the evening, and the company separated at a reasonable hour.

The goblet, manufactured by Mr BROOME of Lord St, bore the following inscription :-

"Presented by the friends of Mr John TOWERSON, as a mark of their esteem for his courteous, obliging, and zealous discharge of the duties of superintendent of the northern division of Liverpool police during a period of thirteen years, August 25th, 1852." We understand that Mr TOWERSON intends to commence the business of licensed victualler.

He later took up residence at 5 Great Homer St, licensed victualler and spirit vaults.

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He died in 1871 aged 61yrs.

Source: [Old Mersey Times](#)

Brian Starkey, March 2012