

Obituary of Thomas Townsend
In the *Brazen Nose* magazine, May 1932, p. 215

It was with great regret that we heard of the death of a former Brasenose College servant, Thomas Townsend, known to scores of members of the College as 'Tom'. The *Oxford Times* of 1 April had the following notice:

After a short illness, at the advanced age of 84 years, Mr. Thomas Townsend, for over 40 years a servant at B.N.C., died at this home, 21 White House-road, Oxford, on 17 March. In 1872 Mr. Townsend was appointed under servant and a few years later was promoted to a post of trust. He acted as Phoenix Club (B.N.C.) butler for over 12 years, during which time the Prince of Wales and other distinguished visitors honoured the club with their presence. He retired from regular duty at the commencement of the War, but since that time was often to be seen at B.N.C. on special occasions, for he was held in high esteem. He was especially devoted to music, and in his younger days sang tenor with much credit, and in this connection was attached to St. Peter's –in-the-East choir for over 40 years. He served on the committee of the Oxford Gleemen Society and was secretary of the Holy Trinity Musical Society, treasurer of the Hinksey Musical Society and a member of Father Wyman's Musical Society. He was a very active supporter of the Liberal cause in South Oxford. In 1927 he was the recipient of a congratulatory message from the King on occasion of his diamond wedding.