

Harbour Grace History

1813

May 27th. — During past week, upward of 100 vessels have arrived at St. John's from Europe.

June 13th. — Co-partnership dissolved; Sam Thorne, Ja. Williams, Richard Holden, Colin Stevenson under name of Williams & Holden & Co. Harbour Grace. New business will be named Thomas and Stevenson, Bay Roberts.

August 13th. Firm. Alex Still, Thos. Patten, Peter McPherson Port de Grave firm.

August 26th.—Rev. Frederick Hamilton Carrington, A.B. Oxford proposed to take into his home six young gentlemen to be educated in Latin and English. Re house pleasantly situated near the church, 100 Guineas, 10 Guineas entrance fee.

Carbonear — Benjamin Linthorne, John Warr of Carbonear merchants of Carbonear declared insolvent, John Gosse and John Elson trustees.

Nov. 26th.—Rober Pack dissolves partnership with George Blackmore, Robert Pack forms partnership with Wm. Fryer known as Pack and Fryer, Carbonear and Fryer and Pack.

Dec. 23rd. — John Tanner, Poole, England, Master fisherman and planter Carbonear and with premises at Camp Islands, Labrador returns to England.

1814

Johnston Burrows of Adams Cove physician, formerly of Sligo, Ireland, deceased, Richard Anderson Administrator.

Feb. 10th.—Darby Hartrey deceased, Wm. Innott, Administrator.

March 10th. — Gosse and Loodgard doing business at Carbonear. William Innott informs public that he has fitted

up house lately owned by Darby Hartrey for accommodation of guests (known as Harriet Lodge).

June 2.—H.M.S. Belleophon left Torbay, England with 65 sail of vessels for Newfoundland.

June 9th.—Died at Harbour Grace, Mrs. Wollop, wife of Capt. Wollop of H.M.S. Fenelle.

Feb 11, 1957

Harbor Grace History

THE WEATHER

HR, GRACE—Since February 1, the weather has been very changeable—extremes of mild and cold "spurts" have been the order of the day. Wednesday was very soft. Towards evening there set in a gale of very strong, southerly wind, a downpour of rain, vivid flashes of lightning, and loud peals of thunder—an unusual experience of this season of the year.—The weather on Thursday and Friday underwent a marked change, and became as cold as ever."

Three inches and a half of ice made last night (February 7th) in the Channel Cut By The Vanguard The carnival at Carlica Rink will take place on Thursday night.

A party of our sportsmen intent on amking the most of the sheet of splendid ice on the harbour, have built an ice-boat. The boat will be put under sail and her abilities tested.

An ice-boat at Carbonear last week met with disaster, she was a very powerful one and was started from the Beach and put straight to the harbour. For a while everything went well, then she took charge of herself and it was estimated that twenty knots was her speed before the wind. As the crew drew near to the edge of the ice they abandond her with

Bits Of History Re Election Hr. Grace 100 Years Ago

As election time draws near, it is interesting to come across notes dealing with the troublesome days of over 100 years ago. It is easy to recall more recent years, when often friendships ceased while campaigning went on, but were often renewed after the contest ended. There seems to be less of that side of events today, and feelings seem to run less high than say—twenty or more years ago.

But, going much farther back than the present generation can recall, we have notes taken from the Carbonear Sentinel of November 15, 1836, that the elections that year were very rough. And the aforementioned paper was showing very bitter feelings against Harbour Grace and Thomas Ridley.

There were four candidates, Messrs. Pack, Power, and Brown. These were former members, and in addition there was a Mr. Godfrey of Brigus. Messrs. Ridley and Prowse and Mr. Newell of Carbonear were evidently opposing candidates, but the latter withdrew, being intimidated by the mob.

A long list, headed by John Munn and George Thorne was presented to Thomas Ridley, but of the list of 25 names, there were very few Roman Catholics, and it is remarked that denominationalism seems to have started early.

A later news item, says that Mr. Ridley, an independent candidate withdrew from the contest, and it was expected that Mr. Prowse would follow him. This was because of the polling of a mob, chiefly from Carbonear. The mob consisted of 1500 men, and lawlessness was rampant. There were more election riots in 1840, and again we read that these concerned Pendergast and Hanrahan of Carbonear and Western Bay. On December 15, 1840, there were further election riots at Carbonear, and the poll was closed. Mr. Ridley was injured. The election of one candidate took a month.

difficulty. The last man only getting clear a few yards from the water. The boat went on and sank—a total loss.

Coals are quoted at \$6 per ton at St. John's.

The annual meeting of the Hr. Grace Literary Institute will be held at the Reading Room on Monday next and the usual half yearly sale of papers will take place.

Note the above named institute was destroyed in the fire of 1944. On Saturday last a petition was gotten up in Harbour Grace for the purpose of seeing if employment could be provided for the more necessitous residents of this town, on the Hall's Bay Line.

The document was presented to W. H. Whiteway, Esq. one of the members for the district, and His Honour Judge Bennett has received from the Government some twenty tickets who will distribute them to deserving applicants.

A fire which might have been very disastrous last week destroyed the home of Mr. Henry Aakcock near Noad Street. The house was uninsured and the loss is a serious one.

The supply of water was excellent and this, combined with the good condition of the appliances enabled the H.G.V.F. Brigade to do a good job.

Neighbourly History Carbonear

HARBOUR GRACE — Looking through some accumulated notes on Harbour Grace history we recently came across the following notes of events concerning our neighbouring town of Carbonear, which, if they have not recently appeared in print, may be of interest to our readers:

1614—Carbonear raided by pirates.

1675—Fortifications constructed on Carbonear Island.

Nov. 25th, 1676—Town of Carbonear burnt by French — 22 houses destroyed but the island made a successful resistance.

Feb. 1705—Carbonear Island repulsed the French, the town was burnt.

1729—Constituted one of the judiciary districts into which Newfoundland was divided, extended from Bay de Verde as far south

as Cape St. Francis. Carbonear was allotted one of the first Justices of the Peace appointed in Newfoundland. William Pynn and George Garland who had Mosquito, Carbonear, Harbour Grace and Bay Roberts in their jurisdiction and were assisted by seven constables, and Ash, Hugh Perry, Robert D. Graves, John Sheppard, Thomas Thistle, William Badcock and Richard Porter.

1740—Garrisoned with the artillery of artillery and 20 artillery men and one officer of foot and 20 soldiers. Two hundred small arms were provided for the use of the inhabitants.

1752—Carbonear Island captured for the first and only time by the French.

1816—Winter of the Raids (Rioters). Stores looted by mobs. 1833—Star Weekly newspaper published in Carbonear.

Next week's notes will contain a dozen or more dates and memorable events in the history of the neighbouring town of Carbonear.

1832

124,417 sealskins manufactured in Carbonear. Tonnage of shipping entered at Carbonear in 1832 was 15514 tons.

1834

Commercial society started by Thomas Chancy. Estate of Slade, Biddle & Co., wound up under the Insolvency Act 1839.

John Elson, merchant, native of Exmouth, Devonshire died Feb. 28th 1840.

Grammar School Act passed by Legislature, 1843. R. Pack of Pack, Gosse and Fryer started big farm 1852.

Daily News

March 3, 1959

March 19, 1959

Harbour Grace history

SOME NOTABLE SPRINGS

HARBOUR GRACE — We have been told that in bygone days it was usual for Newfoundlanders to calculate and settle important disputes regarding the dates of events by referring to them as having occurred previous or subsequent to certain memorable springs.

From generation to generation the names of these springs were told of with the same reverence as their names. The late Mr. Shortis mentioned some of these: The Spring of the Sheets which was also called the Spring of 1837 when the ice was in sheets. Hundreds of men were frostbitten. The Spring of The Cats, when the ice was very small, the Spring of The Growlers, when large lumps of ice were floating about. The Spring of The Gobblers when several ships were lost in that locality. The Spring of The Wadhams, the Spring of The Flowers and the Bay Spring when the ice went up in that bay. There were also four of the first great springs occurred in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

Our fishermen had also a tradition for giving names to certain harbours along the broader coast as well as names on our own coast. Sampling a harbour near Water Bay, probably the name because the crew had sampled for their dinner on the day they went in there. Splitting Knife, Punch and Fanny's Harbour (the ice never to fish there was the Fanny's Cut Throat, the Harbour, Tug Harbour, and Fanny's Harbour, all of these had some special significance but not their names. Sometimes the harbours were named after the skippers who fished in that locality. There were also some named after the fisherman's Island. Fanny's Harbour, Robert's Harbour and Henley Harbour, etc. In the old days nearly every town of standing or wealth had a pecuniary interest in the fishery.

Vessels were owned of and fitted out by all classes such as coopers, tailors, carpenters, etc. We hear of Dr. William Sternum, a physician of good repute in the latter half of the past century, being out his splendid brigantine, the Sulis, for the seal fishery and very fortunate she was too. She is believed to have been lost in the Spring of the Wadhams when Capt. John Ryan who had with him her from Dr. Sternum was in command.

History

MORE EPISODES OF THE 1855 GALE

At Smoke, the barquentine "Nelle" was ready for sea with 5000 quintals of codfish for Lisbon. On the demand of these shipwrecked people the captain at once abandoned his voyage, took all on board, and with an additional 200 proceeded to St. John's, thence they came to Harbour Grace by train. The scenes at the railway station on their arrival were heart-rending.

Emily and Brig Harbours were more sheltered, but the storm took its toll of property and floating craft. Here Lady Elizabeth, 210 tons register of London, was lying ready for market. Capt. Lee at once threw his orders overboard, cleared his ship out and placing her at the disposal of the shipwrecked took on board 400 souls, whom he landed safely at Harbour Grace. In a testimonial, which once was held by the late Mr. Munn, the survivors stated that it was this action of Capt. Lee which saved their lives as they had no food.

In Indian Tickle, an exposed place, the Brig Anastasia stood on her anchor. She belonged to Bay Roberts. All other ships were swept out but no lives were lost.

Grady, one of the largest mercantile centres on the coast felt its full force. The Bridgewater schooner, Lilly, Capt. Arnold, was fish laden for Gibraltar and had put out to sea the day previous. She was never heard of. The Runcorn schooner, A. M. Brundett, Capt. Hay, the Brixham schooner, Capt. Huxham, as well as several smaller schooners were lost on the Black Island. Twenty people lost their lives in trying to reach the shore from the schooner, Exce, Morgan, master.

Mr. R. D. McEae had his hands full. He was the manager at Grady. His wharves and stores were swept away and all being ready for home the supply of provisions were at their lowest ebb. Refugees came from all quarters and about 1000 people congregated on this island (Grady) for him to provide for and allowance had to be resorted to.

Fortunately the S.S. Vanguard which had been sent down to bring his crews home arrived on the 20th and all were put aboard her. The Vanguard had the most valuable freight of her life, and it was with feelings of extreme relief and thankfulness to Mr. McEae and Capt. C. Delaney when she steamed alongside Munn & Co's. wharf at Harbour Grace on the last day of October. It is said that 65 people accommodated themselves in her small cabin.