

# THE



# STAR,

## AND CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.

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### Notices

#### CONCEPTION BAY PACKETS



##### NOVA CREINA

Packet-Boat between Carbonear and Portugal-Cove.

JAMES DOYLE, in returning his best thanks to the Public for the patronage and support he has uniformly received, begs to solicit a continuance of the same favours in future, having purchased the above new and commodious Packet-Boat to ply between Carbonear and Portugal-Cove, and, at considerable expense, fitting up her Cabin in superior style, with Four Sleeping-berths, &c.

The NOVA CREINA will, until further notice start from Carbonear on the mornings of MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY, positively at 9 o'clock; and the Packet-Man will leave St. John's on the Mornings of TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, at 8 o'clock in order that the Boat may sail from the Cove at 12 o'clock on each of those days. Terms as usual. April 10

#### THE ST. PATRICK.

EDMOND PHELAN, begs most respectfully to acquaint the Public, that he has purchased a new and commodious Boat, which, at a considerable expense, he has fitted out, to ply between CARBONEAR and PORTUGAL COVE, as a PACKET-BOAT; having two Cabins, (part of the after one adapted for Ladies, with two sleeping-berths separated from the rest). The fore-cabin is conveniently fitted up for Gentlemen, with sleeping-berths, which will he trusts, give every satisfaction. He now begs to solicit the patronage of this respectable community; and he assures them it shall be his utmost endeavour to give them every gratification possible.

The ST. PATRICK will leave CARBONEAR for the COVE, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 9 o'clock in the Morning and the COVE at 12 o'clock, on Mondays Wednesdays, and Fridays, the Packet Man leaving St. John's at 8 o'clock on those Mornings.

TERMS  
After Cabin Passengers, 10s. each.  
Fore ditto ditto, 5s.  
Letters, Single or Double, 1s.  
Parcels in proportion to their size or weight.

The owner will not be accountable for any Specie.

N.B.—Letters for St. John's, &c., will be received at his House, in Carbonear, and in St. John's, for Carbonear, &c. at Mr Patrick Kieley's (Newfoundland Tavern) and at Mr John Crute's.

Carbonear, June 4, 1834.

#### St. John's and Harbor Grace PACKET

THE fine fast-sailing Cutter the EXPRESS, leaves Harbor Grace, precisely at Nine o'clock every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning for Portugal Cove, and returns at 12 o'clock the following day.—this vessel has been fitted up with the utmost care, and has a comfortable Cabin for passengers; All Packages and letters will be carefully attended to, but no accounts can be kept for passages or postages, nor will the proprietors be responsible for any Specie or other monies sent by this conveyance.

Ordinary Fares 7s. 6d.; Servants and Children 5s. each. Single Letters 6d., double ditto 1s., and Parcels in proportion to their weight.

PERCHARD & BOAG,  
Agents, St. JOHN'S.  
ANDREW DRYSDALE,  
Agent, HARBOR GRACE.

April 30.

BLANKS of every description for Sale at the Office of this Paper. Carbonear, Oct 29, 1834.

#### (From the London Globe, October 17.) DESTRUCTION OF BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT [BY FIRE.]

EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE DONE.—The Painted Chamber and the whole of the House of Lords and Commons, including the Library, and Mr Ley's House are entirely destroyed; and the south wall of the Library has fallen in; part of the Speaker's house is also destroyed. The parliament offices at the west end of the House of Lords, which are entered from Abingdon-street, by the gateway at the Star and Garter public-house, are saved, together with the books and papers they contained, and all the books from the Library. The books and furniture of these two buildings were removed early by the police, and placed in the yard adjoining, and in the terraced garden, covered over with carpets and tarpaulins. A marble mande-piece in the Speaker's house, valued at £200 was taken down and removed to a place of safety, with other property in the rooms that were consumed. The King's entrance from Abingdon-street and the grand staircase are also preserved, the communication with the rest of the buildings having been cut off.—Westminster Hall, for which the greatest anxiety was evinced by every one is safe.—Egges were conducted into the Hall, and their supply directed through the large window at the south west end over the entrance to the late Houses of Lords and Commons! all beyond that entrance and window appeared to be a complete ruin. The glass of the window is of course broken, but the mullions remain entire. The courts of law remain uninjured, or it is believed have only sustained some very trifling damage.

The following is a short description of the two Houses of Parliament before the calamitous event of last night had reduced them to a heap of ruins:—

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

This House was originally the old Court of Requests, in which the Master of the Court received the petitions of the subjects of the King. The court or hall was fitted up in its recent manner on the occasion of the union of Great Britain and Ireland.

The house in which the peers carried on the business of the nation was not the whole of the old Court of Requests, for part of the north end was formed into a lobby by which the Commons passed into the Upper House.

The Throne was new on the accession of his late Majesty, George IV.

The House of Lords was a very handsome if not a splendid room. It was of an oblong description, rather smaller than that of the Commons. In the front next to Abingdon-street, it was decorated with pinnacles.

The celebrated tapestry of the House of Lords, representing the defeat of the Spanish Armada, after being taken down and cleaned, was used to decorate the walls of the one which has unfortunately fallen a prey to fire. The tapestry was greatly admired. It was divided into compartments by frames of brown stained wood; each compartment containing a portion of the story. The heads which formed the border to these compartments were portraits of the several gallant officers who commanded in the English fleet on that memorable occasion.

The Throne was a large armed chair, beautifully carved and richly gilt. It was ornamented with crimson velvet and embroidery. It was always kept covered except when the King came down, or when there was a commission to give assent to bills.

Between the Houses of Lords and Commons was the Painted Chamber, where all the conferences between the two Houses of Parliament were held. The room is said to have been Edward the Confessor's bed-chamber.

The mass of buildings in the old and new Palace-yards which constituted the ancient palace of the monarchs of England erected by Edward the Confessor, were mostly consumed by fire in the year 1512; the Court

afterwards removed to Whitehall and St James's.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

This house was originally a chapel built by King Stephen, and dedicated to St. Stephen; hence the name of St Stephen's chapel so often applied to this building. It was rebuilt in 1347, by Edward III. and created by that monarch into a collegiate church, under the government of a dean and 12 secular priests. Being surrendered to Edward VI. he gave it to the Commons for their sittings, and it has been applied to that use ever since.

The old House of Commons was formed within the chapel, chiefly by a floor raised above the pavement and an inner roof, considerably below the ancient one. On the Union with Ireland the house was enlarged by taking down the entire side walls, except the buttresses which supported the original roofs, and erecting others beyond, so as to give one seat in each of the recesses thus formed by throwing back part of the walls. A gallery ran along the west end, and the north and south sides were supported by slender iron pillars, crowned with gilt Corinthian capitals. The whole house was lined with oak.

The Speaker's chair stood at some distance from the wall towards the upper end of the room; it was slightly ornamented with gilding, having the King's Arms at the top. Before the Speaker's chair, with a small interval was a table, at which three clerks of the House sat when parliament was sitting, their business being to take minutes of the proceedings, and to read the bills and petitions, &c.

On the table the Speaker's mace was placed, unless the House was in committee. In that case it was put under the table, and the Speaker then left the chair.

Between the table and the bar was an area in which a temporary bar was placed, where witnesses were examined. There were five rows of seats on each side, and at both ends upon which members sat. The seat on the floor on the Speaker's right hand was called the Treasury bench on which the chief members of the administration sat; and the opposite seat was occupied by the leading members of opposition. The gallery on each side was appropriated also for the members, and the front gallery for strangers—the last seat being devoted to reporters.

The Chapel as finished by Edmond III. is represented as being of such beauty that antiquaries have again and again regretted it should have undergone any alteration to form it into a House of Commons. When the inner walls were unmasked at the period of the union with Ireland, by removing the wainscot to make the alterations, a great part of the decorations remained. The interior of the walls and roof of the chapel were curiously wrought and ornamented with a profusion of gildings and paintings. It appears to have been divided into compartments of Gothic shapes each having a border of small gilt roses. At the east end including about a third of the length of the whole chapel, which part was most likely enclosed for the altar, the entire walls and roof were covered with gilding and paintings, and presented in the mutilated state in which they were seen during the alterations above alluded to a superb and beautiful remnant of the fine arts as they existed in the reign of Edward III. This however as respected the paintings could not be very advanced, for according to the authority of Lord Oxford no mean writer upon the subject of the fine arts, in his highly entertaining work, "Anecdotes of Painting," the arts had made but little progress in this country at that remote period. The gilding was remarkably solid and highly burnished, and the colour of the paintings vivid, both being nearly as fresh as when they were executed. One of the paintings is represented as possessing merit even in the composition, the subject was the Adoration of the Shepherds. The Virgin was not devoid of either beauty or dignity.

The west front of the chapel was to be seen until the destruction of last night, and it had a fine Gothic window.

Beneath the house, in passages or apartments appropriated to various uses were to be seen considerable remains in great perfection of an under chapel of curious workmanship and the entire side of a cloister, the roof being of great beauty. A small court of the palace was not disturbed at the union and it with other buildings, formed part of the dwelling of the Speaker. Between the House and the Thames the Speaker's garden is situated. Within the House were a great many rooms for the officers of state clerks, &c., besides numerous committee-rooms.—In the year 1816 the floor was newly laid.

#### THE LIBRARIES.

The libraries, especially that of the House of Lords, were exceedingly extensive, consisting not only of books connected with legislation and public records, but upon general literature. Many of the books were superbly bound. During the session peers frequently came to read in the library in a morning. It was only in the course of last session or the session before, when Lord Elenborough having occasion to refer to a volume in the library during a discussion, passed an eulogium on the excellent collection of books which their lordships possessed.

Besides the loss of so many valuable volumes there must have been destroyed a vast mass of documents such as parliamentary rolls and writs of summonses, which can never be supplied. The early acts of parliament we believe were all recently printed in a valuable collection of records belonging to both houses of parliament, so that as regards the matter that will not be lost.

#### LATEST PARTICULARS OBTAINED TO-DAY.

At five this morning the military and police were relieved: and parties will doubtless continue for some days on duty to protect the valuable documents, &c. At 12 this day the Hall was considered in perfect safety. The private libraries belonging to the Speaker are all entirely destroyed, and to what extent the parliamentary papers are damaged has not yet been discovered.

At break of day it was discovered that the damage done to Westminster Hall, was not so serious as had been apprehended, being confined to the destruction of the glass in the upper part of the large window, which fell out as the lead sustaining it was melted by the heat of the flames. The mullions of this window being of stone, and there not being any wood work whatever in the wall, the fire was prevented from communicating with the interior of the Hall. Had the flames however once burst through the window, the whole of the beautiful roof, which is entirely of oak, curiously carved must have been destroyed.

Sir John Hobhouse was on the spot at an early hour this morning giving directions to the men. The Speaker's house is quite gutted. St Margaret's church is literally crammed with papers, furniture, and boxes of every description. Mr Forty the churchwarden rendered most effective service by superintending the property saved, and sat up the whole night to prevent plunder. Various rumours are abroad as to the cause of the fire, but nothing can be depended on.—The whole of the affair is at present involved in the deepest mystery.

The ruins continued smoking all the morning and shortly after ten the volume of smoke began to increase, and the engines were immediately set at work, and after having been played for half an hour, no further apprehensions of the fire again breaking out were entertained. Some are however constantly kept at work, and the body of smoke and steam which continues to ascend from the hot ruins is still very considerable.

Eleven O'clock—Men were now busily engaged in carrying back the books and papers which were last night thrown out into the street, many of them considerably torn and otherwise injured by being so hastily disposed of. Few comparatively of the most valuable have been saved.