

1906. The boats now rowing are the "Doctor" "Togo" "Red Lion" "Blue Peter" and the "Nina," all except the latter built by the famous builder Bob Sexton, whose skill as a boat builder is undisputed. May he live long to enjoy the reputation which he has won is the heart-felt wish of the compiler of this pamphlet, who has known "Bob" as a jolly good fellow for a period of twenty-five years.

The "Nina" is a new boat built this year by Mr. John Taylor, shipwright.

Before I close I think that the following names will be of some interest to the present population of St. John's. They rowed the "pond" in 1828. It was a race between Brooking's gig and Hoyle's whale boat. Brooking in those years kept a large premises and supplied hundreds for the seal and cod fisheries. Their place was where Harvey's Coastal premises is to-day. The gig was rowed by LASH, FURNEAUX, HEBBURN and WINTER, the latter was the father of Sir James Winter. Mr. Pearce steered the gig. The whaleboat was rowed by HOYLES JUN. (the late Sir Hugh Hoyles,) KEOUGH, LEGGE and HOWLEY, (the latter was the father of His Grace Archbishop Howley), Capt. MOYSE steered the whaleboat. The gig won the race. If the official time of the boats was kept previous to the interval of eleven years following 1850 it is not on record. I found the time for only one year published in the press of the old days, and that was in the year 1856. This year the "Undine," built by Loveys, outstripped her opponents in the amateur race, covering the distance in 11 min. 45 sec.

As far as can be known the races on Quidi Vidi began over ninety years ago, as noted in a preceding paragraph taken from a newspaper published at St. John's, in 1828 relating to what it terms "the annual regatta." It must have been going on for some years before that date.