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Notices

CONCEPTION BAY PACKETS

NORA 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. &c.

The NORA 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 expence, 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.

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 EXPRESS Packet, being now completed, having undergone such alterations and improvements in her accommodations, and otherwise, as the safety, comfort and convenience of Passengers can possibly require or experience suggest, a careful and experienced Master having also been engaged, will forthwith resume her usual Trips across the BAY, leaving Harbour Grace on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY Mornings at 9 o'clock, and Portugal Cove on the following days.

FARES. Ordinary Passengers 7s. 6d. Servants & Children 5s. Single Letters 6d. Double Do. 1s. And Packages in proportion.

All Letters and Packages will be carefully attended to; but no accounts can be kept for Postages or Passages, nor will the Proprietors be responsible for any Specie or other Monies sent by this conveyance.

ANDREW DRYSDALE, Agent, HARBOUR GRACE PERCHARD & ROAG, Agents, St. JOHN'S. Harbour Grace, May 4 1835.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3.

THE CORPORATION REFORM BILL.

The EARL of CARNARVON said it was because he was anxious that the House should give this bill a fair, cool, and deliberate consideration, and that the country might be impressed with the sense of the justice of their Lordships, that he rose to move an amendment. He was anxious that no misconduct should take place with respect to his vote. He was not opposed to a measure of corporate reform. (Opposition Cheers.) He was persuaded that great abuses existed, and that they must be remedied; and that whatever government might be called upon to administer the affairs of the country, some measure of corporate reform must be introduced. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.) In moving this amendment, he was not in the slightest degree desirous to interpose between this bill and the country; although he thought it was not right at this period of the session to proceed with a measure of such magnitude, involving so many complicated rights and requiring such dispassionate consideration. There ought to be on such a measure a full attendance of Peers; but he put it to the House whether in the month it was practicable to obtain that attendance. Private business obliged noble Lords to be absent. But after conceding the principle of the bill, and after council had been heard on that principle so very recently, it appeared to him not compatible with any notions of justice or consistency to say that they would not hear evidence upon the bill. (Opposition cheers.) They were bound in justice to all those affected by this bill to disprove many of the allegations made against them. The bill deals with political rights, and rights of property, which in many instances were as dear to them as their titles and estates were to their Lordships. It was upon these grounds, and from a conviction that if they acted otherwise, they would forget the high character for justice, and not for the purpose of creating the least delay he now moved as an amendment, "That evidence be taken at the bar of this House in support of the allegations of the several petitions, praying to be heard against the bill, before the House be put into a committee of the whole House on the said bill."

Lord LYNTHURST said that it was not his intention to adopt the example of his learned friend (Lord Brougham) on this occasion; it was not his intention to enter into the merits of the bill of Parliamentary Reform, on which his noble and learned friend had made so eloquent harangue, further, indeed, than to remind that noble and learned Lord, that some of those valuable rights which had been secured to freemen by the Parliamentary reform bill, the corporation reform bill had attempted to deprive them of; nor was it till the last stage of the latter bill in the house of Commons that the attempt was successfully resisted. (Hear hear.) The preamble to the bill stated "that in the charters of divers corporations there appeared divers defects." Now surely this was matter of credence. (Hear hear.) It did not say that all Corporations were so defective, but that in divers of them "by reason of neglect and abuses of the privileges of such charters." &c. &c., defects had arisen. To enable the House to judge whether this was the fact, evidence must be heard.—If such were found to be the case, what should be done? Why regulations should be made to meet the case; but a number of individuals were not to be stripped of what by law they were entitled to, and of which they could not be deprived without being convicted of definite offences. Surely, however, this was not to be determined on without hearing evidence. The report of the Commissioners had been made up from the evidence taken before it; surely then it was but right that those who maintained that report to be unjust and unfounded in fact, should have an opportunity of substantiating their assertion by evidence. He could

not conceive how any person who had ever sat in a court of Justice, or was imbued with any principles of justice, could maintain that a party accused should not have the opportunity of establishing his innocence by witnesses. Even if the noble and learned lord's precedents had been unsubstantiated, he (Lord Lyndhurst) should have said, look to the principle of the thing—look to the justice of the case; but the precedents had been altogether thrown over. Besides the old charters in question were part of the prerogative granted by the Royal Bount.—Ought not the House then to have said, 'Let us look to the defects in particular cases, and apply an effective remedy.' This would have met the necessity of the case, without leading to public inconvenience or mischief and this the prudence of the legislature would have adopted; but this did not meet the views of those who prepared this bill.—Why? simply because this bill was not for the reform of Corporations, but one brought in to consolidate and strengthen a party.—(Opposition cheers.) This was a fact which no individual was so blind as not at once to perceive. The real object of bringing this bill forward at this season' was with a view to the next dissolution. (Hear hear.) Was there ever a political manœuvre more base than this? He would use a stronger term—was it not a Whig measure in its principle character and construction? (Cheers.)—What was the foundation of the present measure? Say what they would upon the subject, torture it as much as they pleased, put it in every possible shape, discuss it as they chose, the foundation of the measure was the report of the Commissioners. The report of the King's speech of 1833, pointed to the report as the ground work of his measure—no step was taken or attempted until that report was upon their Lordships' table—the very preamble of the bill itself was taken out of the report; and when the bill was introduced in the other House of Parliament, the noble Lord who proposed it, entered at large into all the tittle-tattle of the report, and made it the very foundation of the measure (Cheers.) Now let him ask their Lordships as legislators, as men sitting there judicially in their characters as Peers of the realm, if they were called upon to deprive men of their franchises, their property and their pecuniary rights, upon the foundation of a report, and upon the evidence collected by them, what it was they ought to require? Would [not their just enquiries naturally be directed to the Commissioners themselves? Would they not say, "Have we seen them in public acting in high stations, so as to enable us to form a correct judgment of their discretion, their impartiality, their fortune, or their sound judgment? Now he asked their Lordships, what individual among them knew anything of the Commissioners who had made this report, or whether there was one noble Lord in twenty who had heard the name of any one of them pronounced, until he saw the report on the table? (Hear hear.) He himself knew something of these Commissioners, and the result of his knowledge of them he would soon communicate to their Lordships. He had already said that in the appointment of Commissioners, they required that they should be free from all imputation or suspicion of partiality or party motives. If a committee were appointed in the Commons—in the olden time at least—to investigate any trifling matter, it would be matter of reproach to the party proposing it, if he did not select a mixed committee composed of both sides of the House. Now let him direct their attention to the report, and to the Commissioners themselves. (Hear hear.)—Several of these gentlemen he knew, and he begged to say that in the observations he was about to make, he meant not in the slightest degree to reflect on their private character or conduct; he alluded to them merely as party men. The first name he found on the list was Mr John Blackburne. I need not describe him (continued the noble and learned Lord) every body knows that he is a firm, a determined, uncompromising and unflinching Whig. He is at the head of the Commission, and this is his character—a very respectable man notwith-

standing. (Cheers.) The next was George Long—a very respectable man—went the same circuit as myself—but a Whig too (cheers and laughter.) Then we have Samson Augustus Rumball, a Whig and something more (cheers and laughter.) George Hutton Wilkinson, whom I am less acquainted with; but a Whig also and something more. Thomas Jefferson Hogg—my noble and learned friend I am sure will vouch for Mr Hogg as having always been considered at least a Whig (cheers and laughter.) Peregrine Bingham—Whig again my Lords and something more (laughter.) David Jardine—determined Whig. John Elliot Drinkwater—strongly Whig (renewed laughter.) Thomas Flower Ellis—A follower I believe of my noble friend: a Whig I think he will not deny; I dare not say he is more. James Booth—Whig. Henry Roscoe—I have the honour of knowing—honourable man—northern circuit—decidedly Whig (hear hear.) Charles Austin able man, but I should say rather more than a Whig: I know him well and a very respectable man he is. Edward Rushton—Whig and more (cheers and a laugh.) Alexander Edward Cockburn—a Whig, and more John Buckle—a Whig and more. Daniel Maude—very respectable man—goes the northern circuit; but as my noble and learned friend knows—strongly, strongly Whig (a laugh.) John Gambier—a gentleman, who, I believe, did not sign the report—strongly Whig. And last of all—though I must not on reflection, say least, either, for there is one other very important personage behind, Sir Francis Palgrave—not a Whig. Nineteen Commissioners who are Whigs and one who is not a Whig, but who has written on the subject of corporate reform, and is a good deal disposed against existing corporations (cheers.) Last of all, among these gentlemen comes the Secretary—a friend of my noble and learned friend's again—Mr Joseph Parkes, secretary to the Political Union (cheers), Secretary to the Birmingham Union (cheers), Secretary to this Commission and Secretary to the divided Commission, giving instructions for the others to proceed upon—Mr Joseph Parkes (cheers.) Now I ask your Lordships would you dispose of the most trifling pecuniary interest, where a question of party was concerned, on a tribunal so constituted? Upon this evidence, then, their Lordships were to rob men of their franchise without trial (Opposition cheers); rob them of their property—not merely corporate property, but property belonging to them as individual members of the corporation. Let their Lordships mark the effect of this bill. Many freemen had rights of commons for their lives, and for their sons, grandsons and descendants for all time. It was a quasi fee; and the only qualification required was, that each in his turn should take up his freedom. Now what did this bill do? It said to the freemen, "You shall enjoy it for your life; and your son if now born, shall enjoy it after you, but it shall not go any further."—Was that an act of justice? All this was argued in the House of Commons in a most masterly manner by Sir William Follet, but it was addressed to insensible ears. They were going to reduce these corporations to mere democracies—to so many republics—instead of having them as models of the constitution of the country. "And for what purpose my Lords is this to be done? Why that they may serve as models for a change in that constitution itself. (Opposition cheers) My Lords it will come to that. If you suffer this bill to pass in its present shape, you can make no defence for the Church, no defence for your own privileges, but by one step after another all must go. (Cheers from the Opposition.) If you violate corporate rights, you must then violate the property of the Church. It is impossible for you to stop. I therefore call upon you my Lords to pause—to consider well. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.) Do not do anything like an act of injustice, and then you are safe." (Hear.) These are the features of the bill; are your Lordships prepared to pass it without evidence? Do you not see, and agree with me, that under a pretence to pass a bill to regulate Corporations, it is a