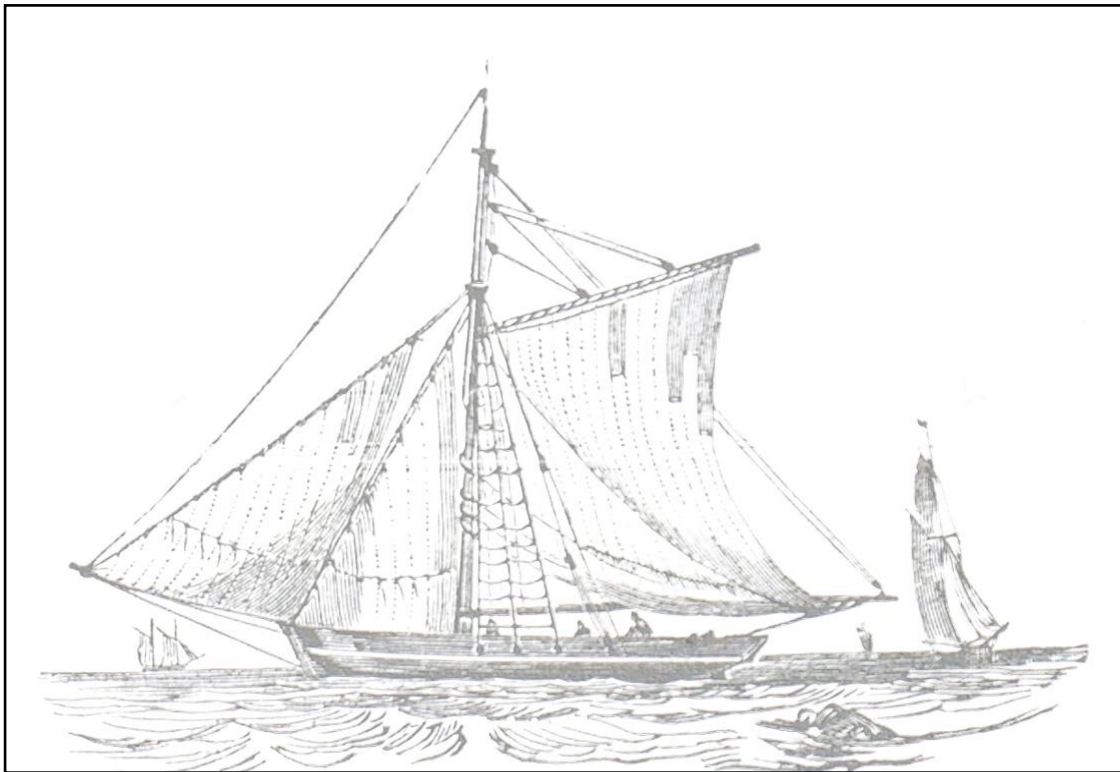


**Welsh Wreck Web Research Project**  
**(North Cardigan Bay)**  
**On-line research into the wreck of the:**  
***Lively of Aberystwith***



*Engraving of a 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sloop*

Report compiled by:

**Graeme Perks**

Report Title:

**Welsh Wreck Web Research Project  
(North Cardigan Bay)  
On-line research into the wreck of the:  
*Lively***

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## **1.0 Abstract**

The "www Research Project" is about, discovering by on line research details of ships, on the MADU data base of wrecks of North Wales, the circumstances of their loss, details of the owners and crew, the cargo carried and their history.

The Lively was a sloop built at Aberystwyth in 1807, registered there and used as a coaster. The Lively was not listed in Lloyds Register and the owners are unknown. The Lively carried often coal from South Wales to Aberystwyth but also completed voyages to Ireland.

Lively was lost near Cardigan in September 1824 during a severe gale, the crew were saved.

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## 2.4 Contributors

Madu

## 2.5 Abbreviations

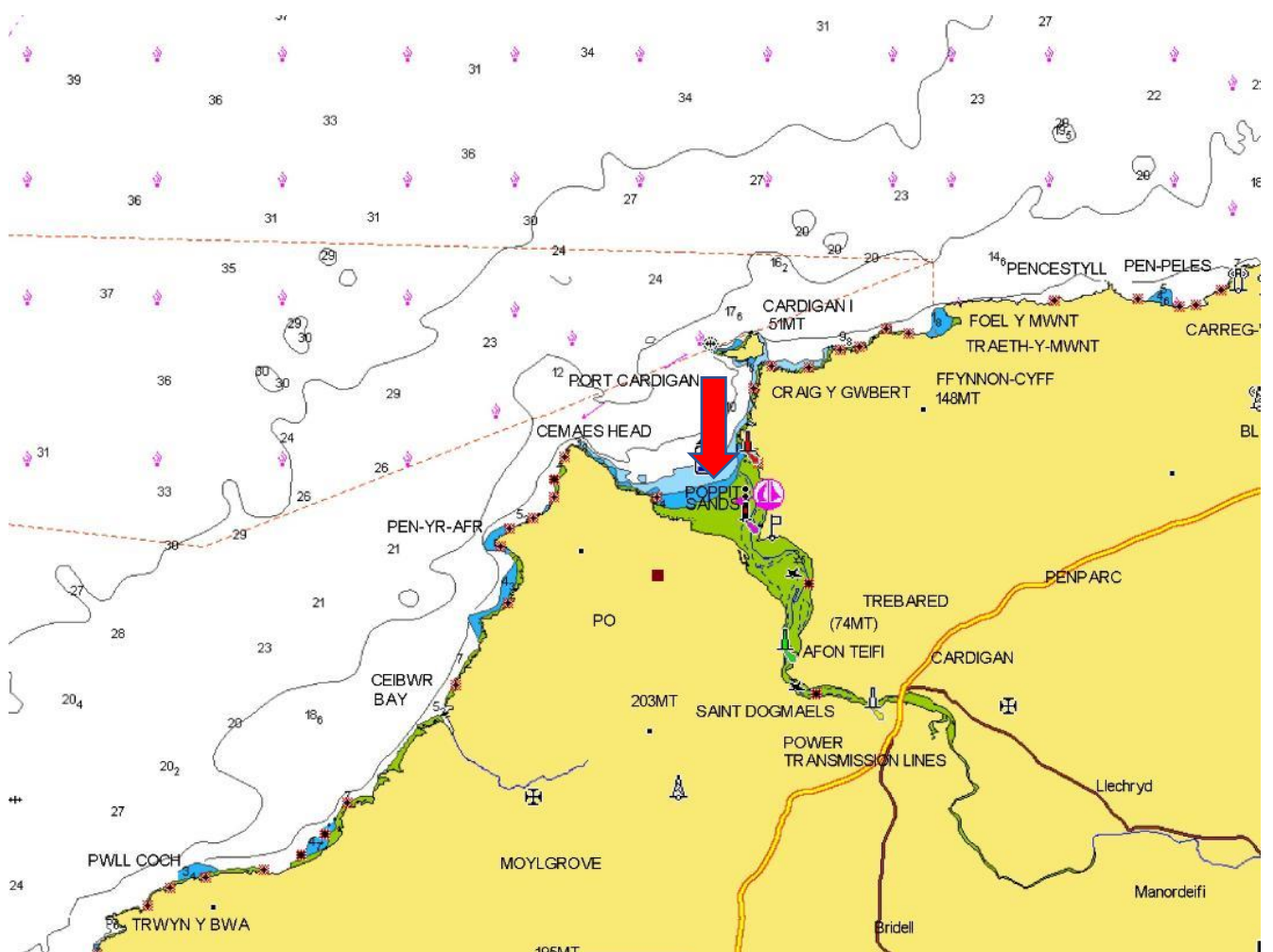
LR	Lloyds Register of shipping
MADU	Malvern Archaeological Diving Unit
MNL	Mercantile Navy List
NAS	Nautical Archaeology Society
NAW	National Archives of Wales
NPRN	National Primary Resource Number
OS	Ordnance Survey
RCAHMW	Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Wales
w/e	weekending

### **3.0 Introduction**

- 1.0 I selected Lively to research because I had seen details about her on a previous vessel I was researching and I wanted to find out what happened and I wanted to discover:
- 2.0 The dimensions of the vessel. Who the builder was and when she was built and any other information available about her.
- 3.0 Information concerning the voyages, cargo's, any events affecting the vessel, details of its masters, crew and owners.
- 4.0 To find out the sequency of events leading up to the loss of the vessel, whenever that was and the event in 1824.
- 5.0 To discover the cause of the event in 1824 and if the vessel survived, the cause of its eventual loss or fate.
- 6.0 The events that happened after the incident in 1824 and up to and after its loss if it survived.
- 7.0 If there was any previous research of the vessel for the 1824 incident and its story.
- 8.0 If there was a wreck site for Lively and if it had been identified, dived and recorded.
- 9.0 If any salvage of the vessel and its cargo had been carried out
- 10.0 If any previous reports had been produced for the Lively.

## 4.0 Background

When I started this project I knew Lively was a wooden sailing vessel that was involved in an incident near Cardigan on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1824



Cardigan and Approaches and bar



Position of Cardigan and Aberystwyth

## 5.0 Research Methodology

I used a Microsoft Pixel laptop with access to my home internet running windows 10 operating system. I also used my Apple I pad for research when I was away from the laptop and to assist in transcribing reports from the British newspaper archives. The new internet provider has now connected my home by a fibre connection so it is very much faster. The Lap top uses bling search engine but I also use Goggle which produces less advertisements and less Americanised content.

I searched Lloyds Register of Shipping ( LR ) for "Lively " looking for details of her dimensions, master, builders and owners from 1807 with a possible match in 1807 but the tonnage was 39 tons not 59 tons. The vessel had however been rebuilt and although it appeared to have been built in 1807 in Wales the entry for 1806 was the same, so unlikely. It was also sailing in Ireland, the survey was in Waterford, sailing to Dublin.

I searched LR ships, plans and survey reports for "Lively" with no match.

I searched The British Newspaper Archives (BNA) for "Lively" , "Lively Thomas", "Lively Rees", "Lively" "Lively Downton", "Lively Doughton", "Lively Aberstwith", "Sloop Lively" and "Lively" with some matches.

I searched Welsh newspapers on line for "Lively" looking for sailings, arrivals, a launch, owners, builders and any details of her loss and found matches. I also searched between 1814 and 1816 particularly attempting to identify the master of Lively for this period with only two that were not eliminated, Pritchard and David. There were few matches and no way to identify either of them as the master.

I searched Coflein site for "Lively" looking for any details of the wreck and a chart with a match.

I searched wreckeu site for "Lively" looking for any details of the wreck with no matches.

## 6.0 Results

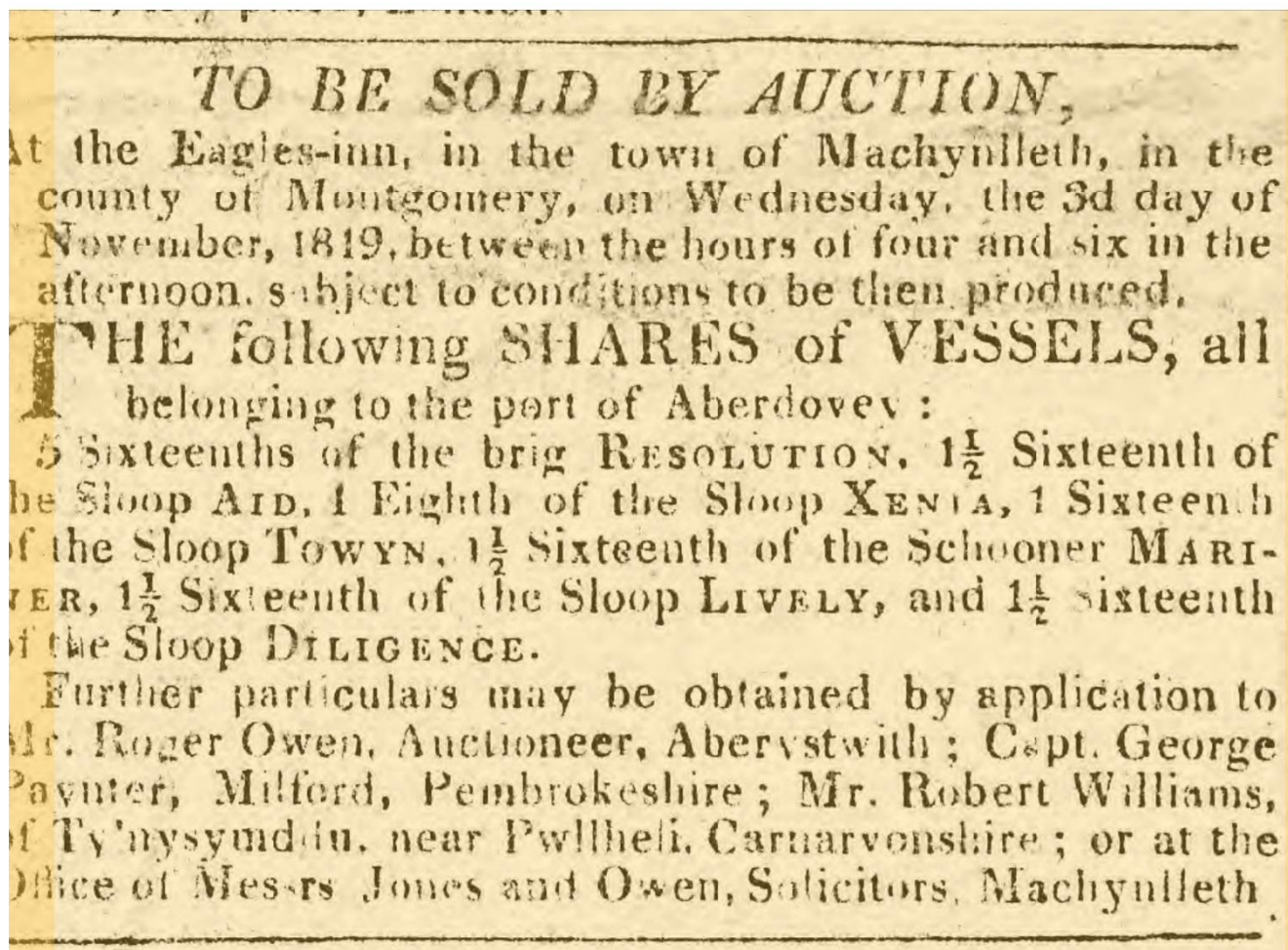
Vessel	Name/s	Lively	
	Type	Sloop	
		Cargo	
Built	Date	1807	
	Builder	Unknown	
		Aberystwith	
Construction	Materials	Wood	
	Decks	One	
	Bulkheads	None	
Propulsion	Type	Sail	
	Details	Fore and aft rigged	
Engine	Details	N/A	
	Boilers		
Drive	Type		
	Number		
Dimensions	Length	Unknown ft	ins
	Beam	Unknown ft	ins
	Draught	Unknown ft	ins
Tonnage	Gross	59 tons	
	Net		
Owner	First	Unknown	
	Last	Unknown	
	Others		
Registry	Port	Aberystwith	
	Flag	British	
	Number		
History	Routes	Welsh coaster, Bristol, Liverpool and Ireland	
	Cargo	Coal, potatoes, oats, wine, timber, lead ore, limestone,	
Final Voyage	From	Aberystwith 20 <sup>th</sup> September 1824	
	To	Carmarthen	
	Captain	Evan Doughton	
	Crew	Unknown	
	Passengers	None	
	Cargo	Ballast	
Wrecking	Date	21st September 1824	
	Location	Off Cardigan	
	Cause	Severe Gale force winds	
	Loss of life	None	
	Outcome	Sank	

**Saunders's News-Letter - Monday 08 June 1818**

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS. June 6.

BRITISH OUTVOICE.

Lively, Thomas, Wicklow.—Curry, Keens, and Co. three hundred deals

**Cambrian October 30 1819**

An example of how shares in vessels were divided before the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854, the Lively in the auction notice is not subject to this research.

**Cambrian October 2 1824**

The sloop Lively, of Aberystwith, Evan Doughton, master, sailed from that port on Monday night, the, 20th ult. for Carmarthen, in ballast, and was, during the severe gale on the following day, totally lost off Cardigan Bar. Crew saved

## **Lloyd's List - Tuesday 05 October 1824**

Bristol, 4th Oct. The Lively, Downton, from Aberystwith to Carmarthen, was lost 20th ult. near Cardigan. Crew saved.

### **Coflein site**

The LIVELY was a 59ton wooden sloop built at Aberystwyth in 1807. The sloop had left its home port of Aberystwyth on the 20 September heading for Carmarthen. The report printed in Lloyds List on 5 October 1824 noted the master's name as Downton (or Doughton - sources differ) and that the vessel had been lost near Cardigan on 20 September (or the next day, 21 September, during a gale - sources differ). The crew had been saved.

### **A Sloop**

A sloop is a sailboat with a single mast typically having only one headsail in front of the mast and one mainsail aft of (behind) the mast. ... If the vessel has two or more headsails, the term cutter may be used, especially if the mast is stepped further towards the back of the boat.

The main vessels described as sloops at this time were by the Royal Navy, who in the 18th century and most of the 19<sup>th</sup>, a sloop-of-war was a warship with a single gun deck that carried up to eighteen guns. The rating system covered all vessels with 20 guns and above; thus, the term sloop-of-war encompassed all the unrated combat vessels, including the very small gun-brigs and cutters. In technical terms, even the more specialised bomb vessels and fireships were classed as sloops-of-war, and in practice these were employed in the sloop role when not carrying out their specialised functions. The term sloop did not often describe a vessel similar to a merchant vessel described as a sloop.

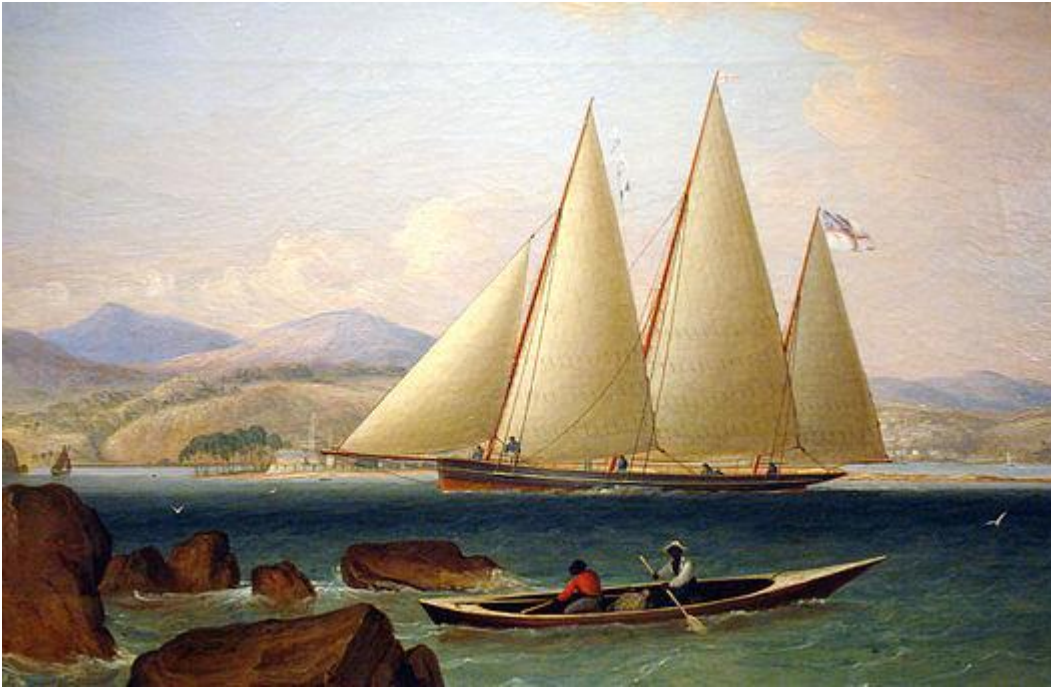


Fig.1 1831 painting of a three-masted Bermuda sloop of the Royal Navy, entering a West Indies port.

## 7.0 Analysis

The Lively of Aberystwith was not listed in Lloyds register of shipping (LR) and as a sloop of 59 tons carrying mainly coal in Wales the owners probably had no need to prove her seaworthy and capable to carry goods.

The later records for the Lively always gave the masters name as Doughton, it was only when she was lost a different spelling occurred in Lloyds List.

There were a number of vessels called Lively active at the same time and in 1814 when there are no records I started looking at Lively with the master Jones but soon discovered Jones continued after Lively was lost. I also struggled to find the next master after Thomas and started recording Lively with Davies as master but he overlapped with Thomas so could not be the master, leaving Rees from the end of 1816. Few of the vessels called Lively in Wales appeared in the LR at this time which may of assisted.

The newspaper report of the sinking of the Lively was very brief and fails to state how the crew were rescued/survived in a severe gale after she was lost off the Cardigan Bar. I have used the date given in the report of the Cambrian October 2 1824 as the Lloyds List report seems to be an abbreviation of it.

I have included the advertisement of the auction of shares in vessels including a Lively but not from Aberystwyth to show how shares in vessels were divided before the act of Parliament in 1854 restricted them to a maximum of 64.

The BNA do not include any Welsh Newspapers until 1821 so records of her sailings and arrivals are few. The WNL produced almost all the records of Lively with the BNA supplying some of the visits to Bristol and in 1821 and 1822. I have used the original spellings in the reports.

## **8.0 Conclusions & Recommendations**

I have spent about 30 hours on this project with about 95% of the time being on line, particularly attempting to identify a master for Lively from 1814 until 1816.

The position Lively foundered is unknown except near Cardigan Bar so the prospect of identifying her are remote in an area subject to shifting sands.

The lack of LR entries and newspaper reports has resulted in few of the original questions being answered except concerning her loss and some of her timeline. It has illustrated the difficulties in researching a vessel over two hundred years old when official records are few and little survives.

There are no other reports on line for the Lively only brief details of her loss on Coflein.

There is insufficient information available to consider any further publication.

## **9.0 References**

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

<https://www.google.co.uk>

<https://hec.lrfoundation.org.uk/>

<https://www.navionics.com/>

<https://newspapers.library.wales/>

<http://ontheworldmap.com/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/>

## **Appendices:**

### **Appendix A – The Timeline for the *Lively***

#### **1809**

May 4 1809 Neath arrived Lively, Thomas from Aberyswith

August 3 1809 Neath cleared out Lively, Thomas for Aberyswith - coal

September 25 1809 Bristol sailed Lively, Thomas for Aberyswith

#### **1810**

May 10 1810 Dublin arrived Lively, Thomas from Newhaven

July 5 1810 Bristol entered outwards Lively, Davies for Dublin

July 19 1810 Neath arrived Lively, Thomas from Bristol - ballast

August 2 1810 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Thomas from Neath - coal

August 16 1810 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Cardigan  
· - oak poles & Timber

September 25 1810 Beaumaris arrived Lively, Thomas from Red wharf-Limestone

October 18 1810 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol

December 20 1810 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Thomas from Newport – coal

#### **1811**

May 23 1811 Aberystwith entered out Lively, Thomas for Bristol – Lead ore

August 24 1811 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol - sundries

August 29 1811 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol – sundries

October 24 1811 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol - sundries

**1812**

January 30 1812 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Thomas from Bristol – sundries

March 26 1812 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol – lead ore

October 22 1812 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol – lead ore

December 3 1812 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Thomas from Newport – coal

**1813**

May 13 1813 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Thomas for Bristol – potatoes & oats

November 18 1813 Milford arrived Lively, Thomas from Waterford for Liverpool

November 25 1813 Bristol arrived Lively, Thomas from Waterford

December 23 1813 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Thomas from Neath – coal

**1814**

**1815**

**1816**

October 3 1816 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Rees from Liverpool – sundries

December 5 1816 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Rees from Llanelly - coal

December 12 1816 Aberystwith arrived Lively, Rees from Llanelly - coal

**1817**

August 28 1817 Llanelly cleared out Lively, Rees for Cardigan

**1818**

May 28 1818 Newport cleared out Lively, Rees for Aberystwith

June 11 1818 Aberystwith arrived Lively Rees from Neath – culm

November 26 1818 Aberystwith arrived Lively Rees from Pembroke - coal

### **1819**

April 22 1819 Swansea arrived Lively Rees from Aberystwith

April 29 1819 Swansea cleared out Lively, Rees for Aberystwith- coal

July 8 1819 Bristol came in Lively Rees from Carnarvon

July 17 1819 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath – coal

September 23 1819 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport - coal

October 21 1819 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath - coal

### **1820**

May 4 1820 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Cardiff

June 22 1820 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath - coal

September 14 1820 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport - coal

September 21 1820 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport – coal

October 19 1820 Llanely arrived Lively Doughton from Aberystwith - ballast

October 26 1820 Llanely cleared out Lively, Doughton for Aberystwith - coal

November 16 1820 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport – coal

### **1821**

June 6 1821 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath – coal

July 18 1821 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport – coal

September 20 1821 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Doughton for Tenby – wine

October 6 1821 Aberystwith cleared out Lively, Doughton for Milford - cordage

October 25 1821 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport – coal

**1822**

May 9 1822 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Newport - coal

July 25 1822 Swansea cleared out Lively, Rees for Aberystwith- coal

December 5 1822 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath - culm

December 26 1822 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Neath – coal

**1823**

July 8 1823 Port Penrhyn, Bangor arrived Lively

November 6 1823 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Flint

November 13 1823 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Flint

November 27 1823 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Cardigan - slates

December 23 1823 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Cardigan - slates

**1824**

January 20 1824 Aberystwith cleared out Lively Doughton for Carmarthen -ballast

February 5 1824 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Cardigan - slates

February 18 1824 Port Penrhyn, Bangor arrived Lively

March 25 1824 Aberystwith cleared out Lively Doughton for Bristol – lead ore

April 7 1824 Bristol Coasters entered outwards Lively, Houghton for Aberystwith

April 11 1824 Bristol Coasters entered outwards Lively, Houghton for Aberystwith

April 29 1824 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Bristol

May 13 1824 Aberystwith arrived Lively Doughton from Bristol

July 1 1824 Carmarthen arrived Lively Doughton

September 20 1824 Aberystwith sailed Lively Doughton for Carmarthen – ballast

September 21 1824 Lively Doughton foundered in a gale – crew saved



Fig. 2 Map of Wales showing ports of call

- Bristol  
 → Cardigan  
 → Carmarthen  
 → Tenby  
 → Flint  
 → Neath  
→ Caernarvon  
 → Milford  
 → Red Wharf  
 → Waterford  
 → Beaumaris

