

Number of souls in Coll,		Workmen	-	37
in January 1793		Cottars	-	65
Males	-	497	Total population of both	
Females	-	544	islands	3457
Under 10	-	322	Return to Dr Webster	
From 10 to 20	-	203	from Tiry in 1755	1509
From 20 to 50	-	346	— from Coll, ditto	1193
From 50 to 70	-	132	Total	2702
From 70 to 80	-	26	Increase since 1755	755

The Tiry-man above 100, was allowed to be 106, at his death, in spring last. Except for the last 7 years he supported himself and wife by herding. His livelings appeared to the last, not only by walking but dancing. There are no regifters of births or burials, and the parish records preceeding the present incumbent's time have been lost.

There are not 40 natives of any other parish in the two isles. Tradesmen are numerous, yet some good ones are much wanted. It is not easy to calculate their number, because, in general, they are not distinct from farmers. Many men and women work at the weaving business. There are very few batchlors or widowers. The men frequently marry at 19 or 20. The population has been also increased, within these 14 years, by three successful courses of inoculation.

The situation of the parish is dismal without a surgeon residing in it. Poor people cannot afford sending occasionally for a surgeon, to a distant country, at great expence, with frequent disappointments; the raging elements forbid it; or perhaps before the relief arrive, the hope of the family is no more. Too often has the present incumbent seen child-bed women, in particular, fall sad sacrifices without relief. It is too much for this parish, without manufactures, and without  
greater

greater improvements in agriculture, to support 3457 inhabitants, if they should be free of other burdens. Yet the people have often and cordially united to make up a small salary, according to their abilities, and bestowed it upon young surgeons, who resided now and then amongst them, considering it as a temporary appointment. There are now so many pious mortifications, so many public funds raised upon charitable foundations; if, in this respect, the situation of this parish was represented and known, Is there any part in Scotland in greater need of relief from them? A fund of this kind, with a farm to reside on, together with what a surgeon could add to it by his practice, might be an object worth attention to some gentleman of that profession. In the time of the last American war, in one twelvemonth 120 youths, and in this spring above 100, left this island for the service of their country. Does not this merit attention in many respects?

*Fuel*—Coll Island abounds in moss of the best quality for peats, but at such distances from some of the farms, that coals bought at moderate prices, would be far cheaper. One end of Tiry can, for a few years, make peats, but in the other end near 200 families are reduced to the greatest distress. They are robbed of the most valuable season, in which they should be improving their farms, in ruining, in fleaving them, 2 or 3 inches deep, wherever there is the smallest mixture of moss in the soil. They have now exposed the rocks in many places. Necessity finds out many shifts. Sometimes in spring they gather dried horse dung; they even burn straw, and then comes the last shift, burning the roofs of their houses or some of their furniture.

*Manufactures and Fishery.*—This parish, in its present situation, is so over peopled, that, though the lands be still occupied