

Extent.—On the W. the parish from this point is bounded only by the Atlantic Ocean. The Isles of Barra, Uist, Sky, Rum, Egg, Canna, and Monk, with the hills of Morven, Moidart, Mòr-thir, Arasaig, and Chnoard, are seen at a distance, with Ardnamurchan and Mull more in the neighbourhood, and at near triple the distance, Isla, Jura, Colla, and Scarba, with the mainland of Argyle, may be discerned. The parish extends, nearly in a straight line, from W. by S. to E. by N. about 29 English miles, including the sound. Of this extent, Tirry is about 11 miles long, and near $2\frac{1}{2}$ broad, and Coll about 14 long and 2 broad. The whole contains nearly 25000 acres.

Surface, &c.—The coast is mostly rocky, intersected with many beautiful sandy bays, some of them a mile broad at the head. The Bay of Gott is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles round the head; and the ground so firm, that a horse at full gallop makes an impression not above half an inch deep. About the half of Tirry is arable, interspersed with small rocks and rising grounds. There are five or six green hills; three of them from 200 to 300 feet above the level of the sea. There are 24 lakes, covering about 600 acres, some of which might be easily drained; trout cannot live in them, owing to the incredible number of eels. There are no marshes and scarcely any dangerous bogs; for though a great part of this flat surface, in a rainy season, be wet, the bottom is either rock or firm land. In the interior parts, about 1200 acres of ground were, till within these three years, common to the whole inhabitants, but they are now inclosed and included in the adjacent farms. This ground is mostly heath, of very small growth. The soil seems to have been of considerable depth, though, having been often cut for fuel, the rocks are now exposed. At every bay lies invariably a tract of sandy

ground, either arable, green mounts, or broken banks, perhaps 40 or 50 feet high. This sand, in course of time, driven by the winds, and not prevented by a coat of seaweeds, or heavy earth, ascends into the interior parts, and lays waste large tracts of ground.

Though Coll consists also of low ground, it differs much from Tirry. The coast is bolder. Not above a 16th part of it is arable. The inhabitants by industry make good crops by delving. Though rugged and unfriendly to the plough, it affords excellent shelter for cattle. A very considerable part is heath, and mossy ground, partly convertible into arable. It contains 48 small lakes, 19 of them abounding in trouts.

The whole of Tirry and the two ends of Coll are the property of the Duke of Argyle, who is also patron. The middle part of Coll (above two thirds of the island) is the property of the Laird of Coll, who chiefly resides in the parish. Tradition says, that the whole property descended, from Macdonald of the Isles, to the Macleans. By marriage the Macleans retained it till the family of Argyle obtained right to the greatest part of Mull, Morven, and Tirry. The real rent of the parish is near 2000 l.

Soil, Produce, Cultivation.—The soil of Tirry is various; sandy, mossy, clay, and black earth, with their different compositions. The sandy soil prevails, and produces very poor crops, except when very well manured. If sown early, there is danger of blowing; if late, of summer drought. The country being flat, even a short continuance of rain endangers the vegetation in the lower grounds. Two-thirds of the whole arable ground are either too wet or too dry, and almost the whole surface is exposed to storms. The returns, *communibus annis*, are about 4 feed. from barley, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ from small black oats (the prevailing sorts of grain) and about 5 from