

carry from 3 to 14 tons, of their lying so conveniently upon the spot, and of having many hardy seamen amongst them, they do not, in this district, pursue the fishing with spirit. The reasons are obvious. They are mostly farmers having a small portion of land, in common with many, which requires daily attendance. Farming in common, and other branches of business, can never thrive in the same hands. Poor people who have a sure, though perhaps a starving way of supporting their families, seldom risk their small fortunes, and of their own accord begin a new branch of business. The danger of not being successful frightens them. When a considerable flock is necessary for fitting them out, the plan is relinquished as ideal. Surely the expence in boats, hands, hooks, harpoons, lines, &c. is considerable, and the storms often break their lines and buoys. If a man could spare, from his daily employment, time to catch 200 or 300 cod and ling, they turn out to little avail without a purchaser at hand. The good effects of the Crinan canal are only yet seen at a distance. If the fisher curs with prohibited salt, they are seized on the way to market; he finds it too chargeable for his small cargo, to visit the custom-house so often, and observe all its regulations for salt, nor indeed does he understand them, he prefers to give triple price for it elsewhere. I have seen country lads from neglect of forms like to be ruined, and even gentlemen who knew business suffer much. If these regulations must be kept in force without exception, without amendment, a bar to fishing, should not some well-wisher to his country collect and explain them to low capacities? Thus in the small attempts, the great things that might arise from them are in effect discouraged.

Procuring aid to the natives, from some public fund, to purchase lines, hooks, harpoons, &c. would raise a spirit of emulation to make more attempts, especially as an easy communication

munication with Clyde will soon be opened. Some person residing constantly in the parish, with a store of salt to pursue whatever quantity might be caught, even in winter and spring, when some of the fish are best in season, might be of essential service. But of all encouragements to make them persevere, the best is, to improve some harbours or creeks in the most convenient places; at least one upon the N. tide, convenient for the great bank between Tirry and Barra, but one third nearer Tirry; and on the S. side *Scairnijj*, the common harbour, which admits of considerable improvements. In its present state the entrance is very dangerous, being too long, and in most places not above 40 yards wide, between two rocks, and a third lying crois at the very entrance. When in stormy weather the wind is S. or W. a heavy swell from the Atlantic enters the harbour. When the wind is N. N. by E. or N. W. a vessel that might come within a few fathoms of the shore, must sheer off again to sea in a storm. When within the harbour, the wind may be much more valuable, a small expence may build a quay, at least as far out as it ebbs, to be secured from the impetuous surge, partly with timber and iron, but mostly with loose stones behind, which are at hand. A short quay at each side of the entrance, overlapping each other, with small breast works within, may be the most eligible. Near this, on the W. side of the bay of Gott, is excellent anchoring ground. It opens southwards, is within 2 miles of the E. end of the island, and runs near 2 miles into the land. The bottom is sand mixed with clay and fæ grafs; and, though sometimes there be a swell, I have seen vessels ride, in great storms, depth gradually decreasing, from 16 fathoms, to the smallest

for a mile inwards. There is a good place for a quay by it. It were to be wished that this bay was better known, being most convenient for vessels which do not hold through the founds, and might prevent many shipwrecks, one of which happened so lately as March last. There are also on the S. side of Coll, Loch Lothuinn and Loch Breacachy, stations where vessels frequently anchor, and which might be much improved. A knowledge of these harbours is the more necessary, as there are in many places on the coasts a great swell, strong currents, and many rocks, as *Sciar-mhor* westward, and the Cairn of Coll eastward.

Sheep, Black Cattle, and Horses.—A few years ago there were at least 14,000 sheep in these isles. The Laird of Coll banished them almost out of his lands. The inclemency of the seasons reduced them in Tirry. There are not now above 1100 in the parish. Though in other countries a most beneficial stock, they are most destructive, especially to Tirry. There is not a sufficient range for them. They do not thrive in summer owing to certain weeds; nor in winter on account of the wetness of the pasture. Where the grass is thin and short, they tear up by their feet the very roots for food. They lodge in hollows for shelter, and so break the sward, and expose the sward to be driven by the winds, whence whole fields are ruined, becoming white banks. Tirry pasture is already too fine. Sheep convert the little coarse grass there is into a finer pile, to the great prejudice of black cattle, as it subjects them, when ferried to another country, to the disease called murrain or bloody urine, and consequently reduces a third of their price, till they get one winter's seasoning elsewhere. Yet if the sheep were banished, it would be necessary to contract for years with sheep-graziers, whereby wool might be provided to the inhabitants at a moderate rate. The

The black cattle of Tirry and part of Coll, which have no access to pasture in heathy ground, are subject as above to the murrain, or in Gaelic *airnach*, probably from its affecting the kidneys. It seems to be communicated either from the milk or fine grass, or from both. However, when sheep are banished, the coarse grass inclosed and encouraged to grow, being the best pasture for calves and young cattle, it becomes at least such a seasoning as may prevent the above distemper. Then such cattle, deducing the inconveniences of ferrying, might most probably sell as high as any in the Highlands, which, when sent to English pasture, grow to an amazing size. One of them, of which we lately had an account, fed by Mr Spearman of Northumberland, 1790, weighed in beef, tallow, and hide, 117 stone 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ lib.

Except upon gentlemen's farms, who occupy two fifths of the land, there is not one third more of black cattle than of horses. This cannot be effectually rectified by the present division of the lands and plan of husbandry.

Number of horses in Tirry	-	-	1400	Coll	-	-	500
Number of Sheep	-	600		Number of Sheep	-	500	
Tons of kelp manufac- tured	-	-	245	Tons of kelp manufac- tured	-	-	55
Ploughs	-	-	160	Ploughs	-	-	34
Black cattle	-	1800	Black cattle	-	1300		
Ditto yearly ferried	-	260	Ditto yearly ferried	-	250		
Ditto ditto slaughtered	-	70	Ditto ditto slaughtered	-	30		

A few years ago the number of horses was much greater; orders were given to reduce them in both islands. A four year old native horse sells from 21. to 51. In Tirry, they might be

be reduced to 250 good ones, with some mares. What makes the ploughs so very numerous, is, that commonly they only plough from the beginning of March to the 20th June. —At least one third of the kelp is made of wrack, cast by storms upon the shores.

The black cattle and horses are mostly in a starving condition. The latter, when their pasture is very bare in winter and spring, tear up the ground with their feet to come at the roots. Many tenants keep two or three cows, which have not a calf for years together. One informed me of his having a cow ten years old, that never had but one calf. Another, that he keeps three or four cows, but had not a calf for six years.

Agriculture, &c.—Inclosures are lately begun. The above facts shew the necessity of continuing them, and subdividing farms to a few tenants that may be able to keep carts. After a little amendment of the roads, with the money that is raised, or the services that may be exacted, there is no country better calculated for them. As yet there are only five in the parish. A small light Scotch plough is mostly used. Great is the necessity of getting timber, and a proper wright. The method of ploughing by one man, two horses, and long reins, is used only by two in the parish; but might very easily be practised by getting a stronger breed of horses. Instead of this, 4 men and 7 horses often attend the same furrow; two men and 5 horses the plough; 2 men and 2 horses the rifle, or sharp iron nearly the shape of a coulter, but bent further forward, and like it fixed in a beam, with two handles to cut the tough sward before the plough, which follows in the same line. When in one farm 4 or 13 ploughs are set going, and 30 or perhaps 96 horses with carts sent to carry sea-ware off the shore, besides some idle mares and followers, such a

farm

farm takes many hands and horses, and labouring must prove dear. A change of method is indeed required; and fishing with manufactures to employ so many superfluous hands. Though the people be naturally attached to their ancient modes, yet whenever they see new methods pursued to perfection in inclosed farms, and work carried on much more profitably, expeditiously, and cheaply, they will readily comply*.

Character and Customs of the People.—The common people are not very attentive to the ordinances of religion, but are now reforming, as the gentlemen shew them a good example. They still retain some Roman Catholic sayings, prayers, and oaths, as expletives; such as ‘*Dias Muire leit*, i. e. God and Mary be with you. ‘*Air Muire*, swearing by Mary, &c. They are free of superstition, and make a considerable progress in knowledge. There is no schism from the established church; and none of any other persuasion, except now and then a few Roman Catholic servants from Barra. It is a great advantage to their morals that there are only three incensed small stills, and four public houses at the ferries and harbours in both illes. For generations back, there has been no

* About 4 years ago, the yearly wages and gratuities of a labourer amounted only to 21. 12s. and of a female servant to 11. but they are now increased near a third, owing mostly to the wants frequenting the low country. Small tenants give them much more. Another cause of the increase of wages is the enlisting so many men for the army, particularly the fencible corps, with promises of poffessions to their friends or to themselves at their return. Hence partly to many small divisions of lands and the poverty of the tenants. Workmen with their families are engaged for a fourth or fifth of the whole crop and grass. In some countries they can more easily triple these wages; their positions, their soil, their markets, and plans of labouring, can better afford it. Tradesmen have from 7d. to 1s. 2d. per day, besides victuals.

no robbery, murder, or suicide. In general they are subtle, and not easily deceived. They are mannerly, lively, and ingenious, very hospitable to strangers, and kind to the distressed. And though it be impossible to answer for the behaviour of all the common people, if left at liberty, the shipwrecked have always found protection and safety from the best families.

Tradition tells us of the remarkable stature, strength, and valour, of John the Great, the laird of Coll's predecessor. He, in several battles, conquered the Macneils of Barra, who pretended right to his lands, and established himself in the heritage, handed down to him from Macdonald of the Isles. The Macneils burying-grounds are pointed out to day, in many places in Coll. Though Neil his brother was not near equal in strength, he could raise to his breast three stones, on top of each other, weighing at least 16 cwt. The stones remain still at the place.

A country man, who died last year about 5 feet 10 inches high, was employed by the laird of Coll as post to Glasgow or Edinburgh. His ordinary burden thence to Coll was 16 stone. Being once stopped at a toll near Dumbarton, he humorously asked whether he should pay for a burden, and upon being answered in the negative, carried his horse in his arms past the toll.

Indeed, though of an ordinary size, the people are remarkable for agility. They frequently entertain themselves by composing and singing songs, by repeating Fingalian and other tales, by dancing affinities at different farms by turns. In this qualification they are remarkably neat. They are very cheerful and humorous, and there are not above two or three of either sex corpulent in either isle.

Poor

Poor and Schools.—They are very attentive to the poor in sickness and want. They rarely have cash, but liberally bestow grain, &c. The kirk session funds do not afford to give annually above 3 s. to each of 50 poor in Tirry, and 34 in Coll. There are also 5 s. or 6 s. allowed to help their inmates.

Whatever these Islanders may be behind their neighbours, any where on the mainland, is wholly owing to their great disadvantages as to education. I hope the period is now arrived when the cloud shall be dispelled. Till lately there were only 10 l. of a parochial salary for a school. Nine years ago, the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, bestowed 10 l. for another school. These two schools generally had not ten scholars each. The people had not taste for education, and there were complaints against the teachers. The Society have, since the Reverend Dr Kemp's visit, added to these salaries a sum that enables the teachers to teach all gratis, and bestowed a number of books upon them. The Duke of Argyle is pleased to add so much for provisions which the parish should make. A salary is now granted, by the Society, for a school in Coll. I doubt not but they shall henceforth be all well attended, if the schoolmasters be well chosen. There are now often from 60 to 80 scholars in each. From whatever source funds may be obtained to accommodate this parish properly, Tirry requires 4 schools and Coll two.

Our congregations were untaught singers, till the beginning of this year. An itinerant church music teacher, with a small salary, employed by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, was sent for. He teaches at so cheap a rate, that it is believed 800 or 900 in the parish will attend him this year. The good effects may be great. Singing is already

already become agreeable, even to the old and illiterate. Men at 70 years of age attend. Sewing schools, and especially spinning schools, are much required, as the women in general are very backward in these respects *.

Emigration.—Thirty-six men, women, and children, emigrated from Coll to America in 1792. None hitherto has emigrated from Tirry, though some talk of doing so. Their crops failed in 1790 and 1791, which, together with the low prices of kelp and cattle, has much reduced them. They must soon go somewhere for relief, unless manufactures be introduced to employ them.

Ferry.—There is a stated ferry between Tirry and Coll, often very dangerous, owing to a heavy swell from the Atlantic, to rapid currents and amazing breakers, over rocks and shifting sands. There is a stated ferry between Coll and Mull, 8 or 12 miles to the landing places. It is dangerous, on account of rapid currents at Loch-Iorburn and the point of Caileach in Mull, and difficult of access to the harbours. There is no stated ferry between Tirry and Mull. The shortest distance from land to land is 21 miles; but above 30 between the usual landing places. The fare for a stout boat and hands here, is from 12 s. to 15 s. For travelling correspondence and markets, there is great need of a packet between these isles and Mull, especially if Tobermory, the nearest post office town, increases. It is to be hoped, when

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* A few of the common people speak English. They all speak Gaelic, which has a greater similarity to the most ancient, than to the modern languages. And as it has little dependence upon other languages, it may not be so copious; but it has this great advantage, that the lowest peasant easily comprehends the highest literature.

the Crinan canal will be finished, that there will be an increase of trade in all the western isles, and that then, instead of asking a salary, some may find it their interest to apply for leave to keep packets. The run from Tirry to Crinan, by the west side of Mull, will be straight, and hardly exceeding 90 miles. Such a packet would find her business daily increase, from coals, marble, fish, beef, potatoes, &c.

Church and Stipend.—There are three places of worship in the parish. The stipends hitherto have not exceeded 50 l. together with 16 l. 13 s. 4 d. in lieu of a manse, glebe, and communion elements. There is also a salary of 33 l. 6 s. 3 d. given to an Affiliant in Coll. The whole tediums of the parish, by decrees 1726, 1729, and 1733, are 211 bolls viifual, two-thirds bear, and one-third oat meal, together with 294 l. 5 s. 6 d. Scotch. The *ipsa corpora* stipend, or tenth part, was taken up so late as 1752. There is now a process of augmentation commenced. At Sorbie in Tirry was the mother church of the deanry of the isles.

Advantages and Disadvantages.—The only advantages we can be said to have, are, that the proprietors of these isles have always manifested an inclination that their tenants should live comfortably; that our lands, though impoverished, are very improvable; and that the fishing, if encouraged and attended to, may be very considerable. The circumstances of not getting salt without great plague and danger, and the markets turning out badly, when the first attempts were made, have discour-

aged the natives; whereas, in their situation, they require not only the countenance of the law, but even aid, at first, to purchase lines, harpoons, &c. It is necessary also to improve the harbours. For this purpose, many vessels that frequent the island would cheerfully pay a small anchorage, even with-

SCHOOLING AND FORMAL EDUCATION

W. Craig Davidson

SOCIAL COOPERATION -- INTELLECTUAL COMPETITION

Based on an individual's sensitivity to and concernment for the qualitative intensification and extensiveness of his own awareness and formed by a configuration of learning through training, conceptualization, and realization, legally approved schools and formal educational institutions are the systematic moral commitments of society by which the student is presented with an opportunity for conscious involvement with the ever-flowing content and controversial structure of the varied areas of study that serve to enable the less mature not only to attend rationally to the composition of himself by the attainment of:

Vocational proficiency and social participation competency inculcated by the training process that is inherent in the nature of schooling;

Self-affirmation, self-acceptance and societal confidence through the initial formal educational areas of the behavioral, biological and social sciences;

Ego transcendence and social responsibility by virtue of the influence of both the Humanities and a cognizance of the universality of those personal values held dear by all varieties of mankind as made evident by the content of the mass communication media (a content which is at once a propagator and a resultant of the confluent cultural drift of the world's societies); and

A sound critical appraisal of both the relatively immediate and the consequent effects on society and thus on himself of not only scientific, engineering, and technological exertion, per se, but, prior to other than experimental and delimited implementation, the often irremediable results thereof;

but formal education also serves to enable the student, in his cognitive, and often non-rational, efforts to make self-purpose, self-expression, and experience comprehensible to the mind, consciously to construct and to enlarge upon a conversationally justifiable philosophy of life and of death; a philosophy that performs the dual function of having not only a rather immediate psychologically sophisticating and sociologically empathetic effect on the embryonic personality gestalt of the individual but also engenders the somewhat more difficult and more time-consuming process of producing, from the attitudinal dimension of his own moral responsibility and authority, non-fearful humor, and volitional self-transformation, a humane, fundamental integrity and a passionate, humanistic social sensitivity and sensibility, as he earns additional maturity.

out the trouble of an act of Parliament. Humanity will feel for our dismal situation without a Surgeon. The want of a proper mill is a heavy grievance, and the loss of several hundred pounds Sterling. We are in great need of markets, and easier communication with towns; and also of a village and manufactures within ourselves, to occupy our superfluous hands. We need much a change of seed, introducing of green crops, inclosing, draining, and subdividing small farms. How can we improve our farms without tradesmen, carts, a better breed of horses to expedite our labour, and bartering so many hundred weak horses, to rear black cattle in their place? We spend the best season of the year, which should be otherwise usefully employed, in providing fuel, in ruining the face of our farms; while there is such an unequal duty upon coals, and yet we must soon buy them at whatever price*. Our loyal and vigorous youth are ready, at a call, to serve their King and country; and if any place in Scotland can claim a preference, in an exemption from the coal duty, it is this Atlantic Isle.

* This was written before the late repeal of the coal duty.

PARISH or KILFINICHEN AND KILVICEUEN.
 (COUNTY AND SYNOD OF ARGYLL, PRESBYTERY OF MULL.)

By the Rev. Mr. DUGAL CAMPBELL.

Name, Situation, and Extent.

THE several parishes into which the island of Mull was divided in times of Popery, were all united at the Reformation, and called the parish of Mull. It was then a part of the presbytery of Lorn. About the time of the Revolution, all that part of Mull N. of the Tarbart or Isthmus at Aros was erected into a parish, called the parish of Kilmian. The rest of the island of Mull continued to be one parish for upwards of 40 years after this period, and was called the parish of Rois. But being too extensive a charge, a new parish was erected, called the parish of Torafay. What remained was in writings called the parish of Kilfinichen and Kilviceuen, from two places of worship, the one in Airdmeanach, called Kilfinichen, and the other in Rois, called Kilviceuen;