

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 foulds, and might prevent many shipwrecks, one of which happened so lately as March last. There are also on the S. side of Coll, Loch-Iothuin 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 *Seir-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 Tiry. There are not now above 1100 in the parish. Though in other countries a most beneficial stock, they are most destructive, especially to Tiry. 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 sand to be driven by the winds, whence whole fields are ruined, becoming white banks. Tiry 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 distemper 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 Tiry and part of Coll, which have no access to pasture in heathy ground, are subject as above to the murrain, or in Gaelic *airneach*, 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. There are beautiful cattle reared here, especially of late, 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 $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

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		Number of horses in	
Tiry	- - 1400	Coll	- - 500
Number of Sheep	- 600	Number of Sheep	- 500
Tons of kelp manufac-		Tons of kelp manufac-	
tured	- - 245	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 2 l. to 5 l. In Tiry, they might be