

SSPCK Schoolmasters 1709 to 1872

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Extracts referring to Moidart and near Moidart –GC Barr

(page 2) **Anderson, John**. Strontian 1750-1756. May 1750 books, sent to Kilmuir in an open boat from Glasgow, "were damnified". He had neither school nor schoolhouse till winter 1753. The Company of Mines at Strontian gave a small room for a lodging and the children were taught "in a wild cold preaching house". There were few scholars as parents could not afford to board children near the school. 1752 asked for transfer to Skye. 1756 left Strontian. The Company of Miners [York Building Company] informed the Society that the small salary forced the teacher to leave. He had £5 from the Society and £5 (Bounty).

(page 9). **Cameron, Duncan**. Bracadale 1844. Forced to leave and could not get site for a house; caught up in the F.C. Struggle (F.C. = Free Church).

(page 10). **Cameron, Hugh**. Acharacle 1871.

Cameron, John. Kinlochmoidart 1868-1872. 1868 at Acharacle, age sixteen. "Tolerably successful".

(page 11). **Campbell, Colin**. Ardnamurchan 1745; came from Treskinish (presb. Mull).

(page 19). **Corner, William**, Achornish. 1850 appointed Government School, Acharacle.

(page 31) **Fraser, Alexander**, Knoydart 1781-1783; Gairloch 1783 – 1784. School closed; teacher insane.

(page 32) **Fraser, Alexander**. Corriebeg (par. Kilmallie) 1861-1867; young but not diligent. 1868 age 24; nothing being done; twice warned; 1869 resigned. "got a situation on a railway".

(page 37) **Gun, John jnr.**, Kildonan 1741-1752; Borrodale 1755; Kildonan 1763; Strontian 1766, proposed for this station but not accepted as he was not qualified; returned to Edinburgh to be examined.

(page 42) **Kennedy, Archibald**; Strontian 1767 – 1770.

(page 45) **McArthur, Archibald**, Strontian 1757. £2/10/0 extra salary at request of the Company of Miners [York Building Company] who said previous teacher left because of small salary.

(page 46) **McBain, John**, Kilmallie 1720-1728; Maryburgh Fort, later Fort William, 1729 – 1747. May 1721, Kilmallie, set up a Grammar School near Maryburgh to teach the children of gentry Latin and Greek; Society ordered him to stop 1724 in dispute with James Stewart, the master at Maryburgh; McBain supported by the Deputy Governor of Fort William. 1729 taught Latin; neglected the school; dismissed . 1730 reinstated, charges of leaving the school; shutting up the children for the whole day, tippling and having been with the Jacobites at Sheriffmuir, were all proven false. 1731 William Sands, bookseller Edinburgh, raised a horning against him for £7/6/3. McBain aided by his pupils resisted the messenger carrying out the caption, so Sands asked Society to arrest teacher's salary. June 1746, asked the Society to consider the loss he had when the garrison at Fort William, by order of the Council of War, destroyed Maryburgh. He had volunteered to serve in the garrison supporting the Government. Society advised him to apply to the "proper persons" for reward for his services and they were reluctant to re-start the school "lately destroyed by the garrison". 20th December 1747, died at Maryburgh.

(page 46) **McBean, Donald** Strone in Strathlochry, 1795 – 1803. Salary £14. Corpach 1804 – 1813; died July 1804. strone was on estate of Cameron of Locheil who asked the Society to remove McBean and his wife (also a teacher) to Corpach where there were fifty families as well as the people working on the canal. He was succeeded by his son Francis.

(page 46) **McBean, Francis** Corpach 1814 – 1821; resigned on becoming Superintendent for the Gaelic School Society. [McBean was a noted Highland minister (J. MacLeod, Bypaths of Highland History, 1965, page 22).

(page 47) **McCormack, Donald** Pitnacree 1859 –1872. 1867, had a "Sleepy manner". 1868 numbers fell when the Free Church school was opened in 1872. Gaelic taught.

(page 48) **McDonald, Alexander** Kilmore, Ardnamurchan. 1733 – 1736. Islandfinan in Moydart 1737; Kilchoan 1738-1739. 1738 produced “an Irish Vocabulary” which the Society decided to print and award him £10 Sterling. Corvullen 1740 – 1745; dismissed 1744, did not attend the school in the summer. 1745 accused of being “an offence to sober, well inclined persons” as he went about the country “composing Galick songs stuffed with obscene language”; dismissed.

(page 49) **McDonald, Allan** Corriebeg, Kilmallie 1859-1860; resigned.

(page 49) **McDonald, Archibald** Trieslig, Kilmallie 1853 –1857. Polish in Arisaig 1858-1872. 1862, good accommodation. Gaelic taught. 1808, removal of some families reduced school roll.

(page 52) **McDougall, Hugh**. Strontian 1771-1773. Salary £12/0/0. Isle of Muck 1774-1790. 1783 “a pious and laborious teacher”. Oa, Kildalton 1794-1822. Catechist at Oa. 12 August 1822 died.

(page 58) **McInnes, Donald** Trieslaig, Kilmallie. 1809 resigned. Applied to a General Assembly School..

(page 64) **McKenzie, Donald** Arisaig 1838-1872. 1863 subannuated. 1850 class numbers dropped since RC School opened, so Society wrote to MacKay of Bighouse, the proprietor of the estate.

(page 67) **McLean, Donald** Corrybeg, Kilmallie 1846-1850. Dalarossie 1850-1855; house, school and furniture destroyed in fire; wife and eight children; given £5.

(page 68) **McLean, James** Leys parish Croy 1762-1263. Salary £8. Ardnamurchan 1773-1775; Strontian 1775-1822. April 1783 the English Mining Company [York Buildings Company] provided a house, garden and cow grass until Sir James Riddell took over, charged for cow grass and ordered teacher to remove. Society thought the change of policy was due to the factor, not Sir James. 1811 Riddell wanted Society to superannuate teacher as he intended to set up a school at Strontian under the direction of Dr Bell’s plan. He was willing to allow a Society school elsewhere. 1812 superannuated. February 1822 noted dead [Rev. Andrew Bell (1753-1832) in charge of Madrass Orphan Asylum devised a scheme of mutual tuition by the pupils later known as the Madrass System].

(page 69) **McLean, Malcolm** Trieslag, Kilmallie. 1863-1866. Left.

(page 73) **McNaughton, Alexander** Kinlochmoidart 1849-1850.

(page 74) **McPherson, Alan** Kinlochmoidart 1858-1867; resigned to attend Normal School 1862, only a few children; should be moved elsewhere and a female teacher applied 1863. Rev. Mr. Clark, Kilmallie, objected to proposed removal as McPherson’s father was on the parish roll and other relations were very poor.

(page 76) **McQuarrie, John (1)** Arisaig 1811-1825. 1824 BUTTER reported: age 45, thirteen years service, good two-story house; sometimes drank, swore and worked at his original trade of cooper. ULVA 1829-55. 1839 superannuated. 1850 Mull Presbytery decided that Mr Fraser, the minister, had no right to withhold McQuarrie’s church privileges. Patrick Butter was the Schools’ Inspector.

(page 76) **McQuarrie, John (2)** Achornish, Ardnamurchan 1850-1872. 1852 violent storm unthatched house but Mr Stewart the minister got it re-thatched. Society asked to give aid until the teacher poor with a large family. 1865-1872 salary paid to son Duncan at Greenock Place, Glasgow.

(page 77) **McSween, Alexander** Arisaig 1756-1759; demitted.

(page 88) **Robertson, Donald** parish Kilmallie 1857-62. Paid salary in advance as about to emigrate to New Zealand.

(page 92) **Ross, John** Kilmuir 1790. Fort William 1790, Glengarry 1790. Kincardine 1792.; 1793-1851 Kincarden Moss. 1796 hardship. Butler reported (1824) – age 60, 34 years service, efficient teacher of Christian Knowledge. 1836 very old – would be better as a catechist. 1838 superannuated. Died 2nd March 1851.

(page 103) **Tod, James** Strontian. 1759-1765. Dismissed, not accepted locally.

(page 103) **Torrie, Alexander** Arisaig 1798-1805; expenses of sea voyage from Glasgow to Stornoway paid. Stornoway 1805-1808; resigned – ill health.