

Petition by the tenants of Ballinoe, Tiree, July 1803

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Petition
To His Grace The Duke
Of Argyll
By
The Tenants of Ballinoe
In Tyree
July 1803

[added in pencil:]

1803	£2299 . - . 3 ¹⁰
1805	2606 . 7 . 8
Rise	£ 307 . 7 . 4 ²

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Unto His Grace The Duke of Argyll

The Petition of Alexander McLean Duncan Campbell John
Macdonald John Brown John Macphail Alex^r Campbell John
Campbell John Bell Neil Campbell Hector Campbell and John
McFarlane all tenants in Ballinoe in the Island of Tyree

Most Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners in consequence of a Tack from you Grace possess the said Lands their Entry to which commenced Whitsunday 1785 and to continue for Nineteen years thereafter and consequently terminating at Whitsunday next, during which time the Rent of that farm has been regularly paid, as their receipts [sic] which are ready to be produced, if required will shew. That your Petitioners till of late enjoyed their possessions comfortably. But now (tho near the close of their Tack) finding themselves much harassed and oppressed in their possessions they are under the necessity of supplicating your Grace and informing you of their reasons. In the first place they have been prevented from cutting their Peats this Season and only upon Saturday last was allotted a piece of Moss no way sufficient for fuel or to which they had right and possessed hitherto do that they

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do not know how, (that the season is so far advanced) to be supplied for the remainder of the year, in that article. In the next place they are oppressed by the Factor & Surveyore [sic] taking advantage, not only of the Petitioners, but of others of your Grace's Tenants by their traffic and purchasing of

Reference: Argyll Papers/PFV65/80, An Iodhlann 2021.53.80

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Transcribed by the Transcribing Tiree Group (Jennie Niven, Dr John Holliday, Maureen McMullen, Margaret Worsley, and Frederica Arnold), August 2022

their cattle at an under value - which from the Necessity of their being obliged to part, in particular with their sheep, in consequence of Proclamations at the Church door they could purchase as they chused [sic] - the petitioners being so remotely situated and no time allowed to notify to strangers or dealers to come forward as to deprive them of a benefit that ought to be encouraged. The petitioners also consider it a hardship (tho by their Tack they are bound to give so many days service), to be under the necessity of not only serving the Factors own particular occasion, but also his servants, in place of doing it for the Good of the Country – and the end of the Island in which the Petitioners reside has, by the Factors doing been disappointed of a Miller to grind their grain and your Grace’s tenants necessitated to beg or borrow meal from each other, and often to take an uncommon method of grinding such grain as they have altho’ known to be plentiful – the Petitioners do not complain of your Grace’s Lands and notwithstanding of their being for six years back obliged to pay

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an additional sum for Stipend on Teind either in kind or money, are still willing to give Ten pounds Stirling yearly of an augmentation upon their getting a renewal of their Lease, providing they get proper usage or Factorship and they trust that they will at least be preferred upon equal terms

May it therefore please your Grace to consider this Petition
and to order therein as to your Grace shall seem proper
And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Inveraray 7 July	Alex	X	McLean
		^{his}	
		mark	
1803	Duncan	X	Campbell
	John	X	Macdonald
	John	X	Brown
	John	X	Macphail
	Alex ^r	X	Campbell
	John	X	Campbell
	John	X	Bell
	Neil	X	Campbell
	Hector	X	Campbell
	John	X	McFarlane