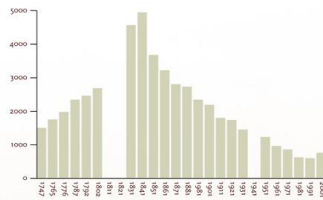




The Southern Cross in 1853, one of the ships used to carry emigrants to Australia. The voyage took over three months.



The Tires population, which had been steady at around 1,000 since the Iron Age, peaked in 1843 at 4,961

### AUSTRALIA

**Archibald Campbell** left Cornaig, where his father was the miller, in 1850 and sailed from the Clyde bound for Melbourne. He kept a diary of his voyage.

OCTOBER 29. We had a wedding on board the *Sydney* this day. One of our cabin passengers took notion of one of the steerage passengers to marry her and in a very short time he put it to effect. We had a good spread today about it, dancing and singing songs till they were tired.

OCTOBER 30TH. Very calm and hot. Going about barefooted with only trousers and shirt perspiring, sitting in the coolest place in the ship

NOVEMBER 4TH. Fourteen vessels in sight all day. We are about 450 miles from the line [equator].

NOVEMBER 12TH. This is Halloween [Old Calendar] with my dear friends in Tires. It awakens deep thoughts within me, but there was no way of banishing them, but going to God with a loaded heart and poured out in His presence.

JANUARY 1ST 1851. I gave the captain and the rest of the gents a first foot about half past twelve this morning. I treated them with a Highland whisky from a Highland man out of a Highland glass, as the captain used to say, and also the rest of the steerage passengers.

JANUARY 3RD. My bed companion was complaining very much this three days back that I was bruising him every night with the heaving of the vessel.

JANUARY 17TH. We came alongside a white sandy beach about twenty miles long. It puts me in mind of our own sandy beaches at home. Landed next morning at Yarra Yarra wharf. The voyage under sail from Greenock to Australia had taken 106 days.

For others the new lands brought tragedy. A grave found in the Queensland bush reads, **In loving memory of Donaldina McLean, only daughter of Dugald and Mary McKinnon. Born on the Island of Tires 1880, died 1886.**

It is said that the child was restless in the night. In the morning a snake was found in her bed and the girl was dead.

For at least one Tires man emigration was not a matter of choice. **Hector MacL<sup>2022</sup>** was convicted in 1857 of the murder of his wife in Earnal. He was transported to Western Australia as a convict. He was freed after seven years but died of TB within a few months.



Captain Charles McKinnon of Sydney had emigrated from Ruarg in 1862. He became the owner of the first iron vessel in Australia

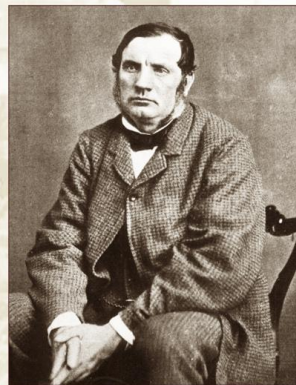


The grave of Donaldina McLean deep in the Australian bush near Charleville, Queensland

### NEW ZEALAND

**Sir Donald MacLean** left Kilmaluig in 1838 when he was 18 and emigrated to New Zealand. Working at first for a logging company he had frequent contacts with the native people and he became a fluent Maori speaker. In 1844, at the age of 24, he was sent by the Governor to defuse a confrontation between the Maoris of Taranaki and British settlers who claimed they had acquired a large area for £200, two horses, two saddles and a hundred blankets. MacLean led negotiations which led to the Maoris receiving some of their land back and a better price for the rest.

He went on to buy 30,000 acres of land at Hawke's Bay. Eventually Maraekakaho station had 32,000 sheep and a hundred men working on it. He was elected Superintendent of Hawke's Bay and entered political life, becoming Minister of Native Affairs and then Minister of Defence. At his funeral the sounds of the pipes and the Maori songs mingled, and an old Maori chief wrote that MacLean had 'spread the sleeping mat of peace for the tribes of the island.'



Sir Donald MacLean

### PATAGONIA

Large sheep farms were being opened up in the 1880s in Patagonia on the southern tip of South America. Donald Paterson from Balinoe was one who went to seek his fortune there.

*'They were looking for men that were used to working with sheep. They used to come here recruiting, men that were used to hardship and living in lonely places, you see...the father of Iain Dheòrsa [Iain Paterson, Crossapol] was born in Patagonia. He was seven years old when he came back to Tires. He could speak Gaelic and Spanish and not a word of English.'* HECTOR MACPHAIL

This panel has been sponsored by Bernard D Smith and Son, Builders, West Hynish, Tires