

LISMORE ISLAND

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE

LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

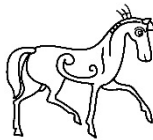
1853-1868

Edited by

Robert Hay

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THE EUROPEAN
ETHNOLOGICAL
RESEARCH CENTRE

Sources in Local History

CONTENTS

Introduction	iii
Editing	xviii
Acknowledgments	xix
Minute Book	1
Further Reading	81

INTRODUCTION

Background

The wave of agricultural Improvement passing through Scotland from the second half of the eighteenth century came late to Lismore. In earlier times, it had been an important source of grain for a region whose topography and climate meant that the land was devoted principally to raising cattle.¹ Lismore's shallow, well-drained soils overlying limestone, low relief, and the degree of 'rain shadowing' provided by the mountains of Mull meant that every scrap of cultivable land was devoted to the plough; and unlike in most of Argyll, rents were traditionally paid in grain (sometimes converted to whisky), rather than in livestock products.² As late as 1846, with the *Phytophthora* epidemic destroying potato crops across Argyll, Lismore's traditional reliance on grain production protected its population against the worst effects; indeed, in December of that year, it was exporting meal to Moidart.³

The stimulus to agricultural production caused by the Napoleonic Wars, with grain prices rising up to four times the pre-war level, did not last beyond Waterloo, and the farming industry was in recession by the 1820s. With rents on Lismore held at war-time levels, or even raised (as on the Barcaldine estate),⁴ most tenants were in arrears and falling further into debt. By 1840, for example, arrears amounted to 62 per cent of the annual rent on the

Baleveolan estate.⁵ To make matters worse, during the late 1830s there was a period of global cooling, possibly related to the enormous eruption of the Cosiguina volcano in Nicaragua in January 1835.⁶ Long, snowy winters and cool, wet summers resulted in poor harvests worldwide. At the same time, the local market for Lismore grain was being undermined by increased yields on Lowland farms, and improvements in the national transport infrastructure. Following the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846, cheap imports from overseas only made the situation worse.

Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that three of the (non-resident) owners of lands on Lismore, all Campbell cadets, had been declared bankrupt by the 1840s. This resulted in the sale of around three-quarters of the island to wealthy men from the Lowlands with no history of involvement with the West Highlands, its people or its agriculture. Much of the remaining area of the island (the Baleveolan estate) was the inheritance of a minor, and the factor was given a free hand as long as the rents were paid.

Three Estates: Three Approaches to Improvement

By the 1840s, agriculture on Lismore had moved beyond the runrig stage, with the land now subdivided among single tenants rather than in multi-tenancy arrangements. Cropping, however, was still by rig and furrow,⁷ and continuous cereals, alternating bere and oats, continued to be grown, without rotations. The landscape, moreover, was largely unenclosed, and during the growing season the island's small number of cattle and sheep, which were reared mainly for household use, were kept beyond the head dyke, and under the supervision of herd boys and girls. Rents were predominantly, but not exclusively, paid in cash. The Baleveolan tenants, for example, were still expected to provide the owner with meal milled on the island. The pace of change was to increase rapidly under the direction of the new men, although they had contrasting ideas about how to improve Lismore's agriculture and so increase the income from their land.

James Auchinleck Cheyne (1795-1853) was an Edinburgh lawyer and

accountant, and owner of the Kilmaron estate in Fife. He bought the lands on Lismore of Charles Campbell of Combie in 1842, and those of Sir Duncan Campbell of Barcaldine between 1842 and 1845. His vision of Improvement was the progressive conversion of the arable land to sown grass, the creation of sheep walks and the removal of communities that had occupied the townships since time immemorial. By the time of his death, he had cleared more than 200 people from the townships of Baligrundle, Fiart, Kilcheran, and Portcharron, replacing the tenants and cotters with shepherds, some recruited from the Lowlands. His wife continued the process into the 1860s, clearing the township of Craignich. Several of the tenant families relocated elsewhere on the island, although at least three emigrated to Canada. Most of the landless cotters and most of the younger islanders, however, were obliged to migrate from the island to earn their living, predominantly to the Central Belt of Scotland.

Allan Duncan MacDougall (1798-1876), younger son of the chief of MacDougall and raised in the West Highlands, was also an Edinburgh lawyer. Shortly after the death of his sister Ann's husband, Peter Campbell of Baleveolan, Allan was called upon to act as factor for their infant son, Donald, looking after his property on Lismore. His responsibilities continued until Donald Campbell returned from service in the Crimean War. Much of what he tried to achieve on Baleveolan, in the face of indifference on the part of Ann and her new husband and hostility from some of the tenants, is recorded in surviving letters to the estate ground officers from 1833 to 1857.⁸

Faced with the heavy debts carried by the tenants, Allan encouraged them to undertake improvements, including the installation of subsoil drainage (which facilitated the ploughing out of rig and furrow), the enclosure of fields with drystone dykes, and the planting of trees for shelter. These were then valued and set against arrears. The success of this approach is shown by the fact that rent arrears actually decreased during the years of the potato epidemic. MacDougall imposed a six-course rotation, including sown grass and green crops (potatoes and turnips), for which he provided the necessary seeds; and, in line with the approach of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (HASS), offered cash 'premiums' for the best crop husbandry

and cattle breeding. He also provided solutions to technical problems, such as arranging for supplies of guano to deal with phosphate deficiency in turnip crops. MacDougall's approach allowed the co-operative tenants to prosper and ensured the relative stability of the estate population during his factorship, although later amalgamation of holdings, when the owner assumed responsibility, caused the number of people on the townships of Baleveolan and Balimakillichan to decline.

Sir John Campbell of Airds (1767-1834), who was from a family that had considerable factoring experience, was noted in the *New Statistical Account* as an enthusiastic agricultural improver in Appin.⁹ He was also active in trying to develop the economic potential of his lands on Lismore, experimenting with kelping in the 1790s,¹⁰ establishing Port Ramsay from 1810,¹¹ and starting lime burning nearby at Park.¹² Soon after his death, the estate was in serious financial difficulties, and his son (also Sir John, 1807-53) was bankrupt by the 1840s. The Lismore lands were acquired by the Haig whisky distilling dynasty, with Alexander Haig (1791-1865) taking possession by 1853 at the latest.¹³ Haig was fortunate to inherit several leading tenants; and around the start of his ownership, the estate recruited another one: Donald McColl, former miller at Baligrundle, who had been evicted in the Cheyne clearances.¹⁴ Over the first decade of the Society, Haig was the most consistent and generous 'gentleman' member, subscribing £5 each year. His contribution to the development of agriculture on his own estate appears to have been principally in terms of infrastructure, in the form of new steadings and the upgrading of the Park lime kilns. The investments of the elder Sir John Campbell and Alexander Haig ensured that, unlike the rest of the island, the north end retained its population throughout the nineteenth century.

The Founding of the Lismore Agricultural Society

In view of the new drive for agricultural improvement across Lismore, it is not surprising that there was a move to start an agricultural society for the sharing of new ideas and the recognition of achievements. The Minute Book, held in

the Lismore Historical Society archive and transcribed here in full, records that the Lismore Agricultural Society was founded in 1853 ‘for the purpose of awarding Premiums [*i.e.* prizes] to promote the [following] objects: 1st. Ploughing and Spade Labour; 2nd. Stock and Dairy Produce; and 3rd. Cropping and Cultivation’.¹⁵ To this end, a ploughing and spade match was to be held in February or March, and a competition for stock, dairy produce and crops in August. The rules were to be those of the HASS for district competitions in the Highlands, and the premiums given whenever possible in implements rather than in money.

Membership was to be open to

... all persons who shall subscribe not less than 10/- of Annual Subscription; and all Tenant Farmers in the Island [who] shall subscribe 1d per pound of Annual Rent, which subscription to be in no case less than 1/- nor of necessity more than 5/- Annually.

At its foundation, there were six gentlemen members: James Cheyne; Alexander Haig; Angus Gregorson, lawyer and banker in Oban; Allan MacDougall; Walter Dunn, manager of Cheyne’s estate; and Lewis Grant MD, the Appin doctor. There were also forty tenants, including at least three leading men: Peter McDougall, retired schoolmaster; Reverend Gregor McGregor, the parish minister, who, in addition to his glebe, rented land on the cleared township of Portcharron; and John McIntyre, manager of the Salen limeworks. The founding president was James Cheyne, but it is unlikely that he was the ‘moving spirit’ of the Society, being uninterested in the development of the arable land on the island. In any case, 1853 was the year of his death. He may have been nominated because he was the only resident landowner. Alexander Haig and Angus Gregorson filled the honorary presidency in succeeding years. The subsequent very active participation of the minister, the schoolmaster and a businessman in the running of the Society, and in competing for its prizes, indicates that the early momentum actually came from them. This is not surprising: without a history of resident landlords, the ‘running’ of the island had largely been left to the tenants. Results of the competitions show that

several of the ‘ordinary’ tenants also made major contributions to the early years of the Society. The only surprise is that Allan MacDougall, who, as factor, had pioneered improvement by premiums on the Baleveolan estate, was so little involved; he paid a subscription in 1853, met his arrears in 1854, but does not otherwise feature in the Minute Book.

The Managing Committee

The roles of the managing committee were to organise the competitions, to ensure that the rules of the Society were observed, to appoint judges, to award the premiums, and to look after the finances. At an early stage, it was agreed that the subscriptions would be collected by the ground officer of each estate. A sub-committee was set up each year to select a site for the ploughing match but, at least in the early years, the livestock judging took place at Portcharron, near the centre of the island. The committee meetings, frequent in the early 1850s but infrequent from 1856, were held mainly at private farm houses, occasionally at schoolhouses but never at the manse.

The founding committee of eight members, chaired by the minister, included John McIntyre, Walter Dunn, and two of Alexander Haig’s tenants: Donald McColl (Point) and Donald Carmichael (Achuaran). Peter McDougall, the retired schoolmaster, acted for several years as secretary and treasurer, and it is his copperplate writing that records the early years of the Society (Fig. 2). He was succeeded in the 1860s by Donald Carmichael. In line with his business experience, John McIntyre acted throughout the period as auditor of the accounts, and also served as committee chairman as required.

Competitions and Premiums

Ploughing Matches

From the outset, the annual ploughing match in February or March was popular on the island, and keenly contested, with fifteen to twenty ploughs on the field each year operated by the member, his son or his employed ploughman. The

idea of assessing spade work seems to have been dropped at an early stage. The regulations were strict, not only in defining the depth and breadth of the furrow, but also in stating who was allowed to take part in the ploughing. The decisions of the judges, more commonly from the mainland as the years passed, were ‘to be final’. There were to be no post-match arguments, although in 1853 Donald Carmichael was nearly dismissed from the Society for irregular behaviour. The committee relented when it was established that ‘his plough was withdrawn from the field of labour without his consent’.

The winner of the first ploughing match, in 1853, was none other than Alexander Carmichael, the twenty-year old son of Hugh Carmichael, tenant in Kilandrist, later to be the celebrated folklorist. In subsequent years, there were other outstanding competitors, including the younger Carmichaels and McGregors in Achuaran, who were frequent winners and placed in the top six each year. In 1854, the first prize was 15/- but, as the Society’s finances became tighter, it fell to 7/- in 1863. In some years, Campbell & McNair (Saddlers) of Oban offered special cash prizes. In 1855, for example, they offered 5/- each for the ‘best groomed horse’ and the ‘best old harness’.

Growing Crops

Judges were appointed each year to assess crops in the competitors’ fields, in June/July for grass and in August for arable crops. In the early years of the Society, each of the three competition categories (oats, sown grass, and turnips) was divided into two classes, one for tenants who paid over £30 p.a. in rent and one for those who paid under £30 p.a. By the 1860s, however, all members competed in a single class. The competitions for sown grass and turnips were particularly important because both crops were central to Improvement: they not only improved soil structure and fertility directly and indirectly through increased amounts and quality of manure, but also reduced the risks associated with cereal monoculture. Amongst the ‘Class 1’ farmers, over the first decade, there were several premium winners, but consistently good results for committee members John McIntyre and Peter McDougall.

To complement the achievements of the younger-generation ploughmen from Achuaran, Donald Carmichael and John McGregor were also prominent in the prize lists. Amongst the ‘Class 2’ tenants, Reverend Gregor McGregor and Miles Black (Baleveolan) carried off prizes each year.

Livestock and Dairy

Enhancement of the quality of livestock, particularly cattle and their products, was also an important component of Improvement on Lismore. In the 1850s, the annual competition for breeding cows (at that time predominantly Highland), heifers, stirks (bullocks), bulls and horses, which evolved into the Lismore Show, took place in August at Portcharron. In 1855, the committee decided that there would be three prizes for each class of cows, stirks and horses of which five lots were to be exhibited. They also agreed that stirks purchased on or before the Oban cattle market in May would be allowed to compete. This must have been controversial, however, as the following year they resolved that only stirks or heifers reared by the exhibitor would be allowed to compete, a decision confirmed in the 1860s. As with the crop competitions, in the first decade of the Society several members gained premiums but, again, John McIntyre, Peter McDougall, Reverend Gregor McGregor, Donald Carmichael and John McGregor were dominant in the lists.

Dairying, beyond the daily needs of the household, was in its early stages and still based on Highland cattle; it would be later in the century before specialist dairy breeds, Ayrshire and Shorthorn, became common on the island. Nevertheless, by 1861 there was enough work to justify employing a dairymaid at the manse, and at farms at Achnacroish, Achuaran, Frackersaig, Kilandrist, Park, Salen, and Tirlaggan. Dairy products were assessed in the 1853 and 1854 competitions but, surprisingly, in view of the enthusiasm for butter and cheese prizes well into the twentieth century, they were then discontinued. In 1853, the premiums went to Reverend McGregor (1st), Peter McDougall (2nd) and Donald McColl (3rd), but the wives asserted themselves as the actual competitors in 1854: Mrs McGregor (1st), Mrs McDougall (2nd)

and Mrs Buchanan, Achnacroish (3rd). That there was no favouritism associated with the prominence of the minister's wife is confirmed by her diary for 1868, which records the making of cheese and butter from the milk produced by 'Lady', the manse cow, most days from June onwards.¹⁶

There was a long tradition of breeding horses on Lismore. In 1819, for example, the HASS awarded a premium to Mr Carmichael, Lismore, for the best three year old colt or filly in the district of Appin;¹⁷ and according to Reverend McGregor, 'Lismore is famous for its grey and dappled horses, and the inhabitants are famed for their skill as jockeys, in which occupation they are often employed'.¹⁸ In the eight years of competition recorded in the Minute Book, the horse category featured the familiar competitors: Donald Carmichael won four 1st, two 2nd and one 3rd prizes; John McGregor won one 1st prize; John McIntyre won one 1st, three 2nd, and one 3rd; and even Peter McDougall featured with a 3rd prize in 1857.

It was a rule that, although the ploughing match prizes were to be paid in cash, the other premiums should be paid in kind. In 1853, however, this was found to be impossible and the committee agreed to pay all prizes that year in cash. In later years they had to buckle down to the practical problems of making the payments, with successful competitors in 1855 being requested to tell the secretary what implements they preferred to get for their prizes. How the committee reconciled the amounts awarded with relevant implements is not recorded. It must have been a major bureaucratic challenge.

The Leaders

The Minute Book entries reveal that the success of the first decade of the Society, which laid the foundations for a lasting institution, was ensured by a combination of powerful characters and talented tenants. Three men in particular stand out.

Reverend Gregor McGregor (Fig. 3), parish minister for nearly fifty years (1836-85), was an important stabilising factor on an island experiencing considerable trauma (famine, clearance, extensive migration). He was a

conservative figure. Nominated by the duke of Argyll, he was one of only two ministers in Lorn who remained in the Established Church at the 1843 Disruption. He also married into a network of West Highland gentry (which, incidentally, propelled him into bankruptcy in 1844), and expressed no reservations about the activities of James Cheyne in clearing much of his human flock from the island; indeed, he established his own sheepwalk on the cleared township of Portcharron. On the positive side, there are indications that he protected the cottars on the Baleveolan estate,¹⁹ and he undertook other roles such as acting as post master for letters from the Lismore diaspora abroad.²⁰ In his later years he had a reputation as a genial host at church soirees, even demonstrating a degree of ecumenism.²¹ Transcription of the Minute Book has revealed another side to this complicated man: an enthusiastic chairman of the managing committee, and an energetic competitor for crop and livestock premiums. Clearly he was a powerful example to the farming community, possibly even intimidating.

Peter McDougall (c.1800-79) was another educated man who did not hesitate to get his hands dirty. A weaver's son from Kilbride parish on Bute, he must have benefited from a sound education as he rose to become a school teacher.²² In the 1820s he was schoolmaster in Kilmonivaig (Inverness-shire), moving on to Baligrundle parish school on Lismore in the 1840s and 1850s. His sons were also students and schoolmasters. By 1861 he had retired and was described as a farmer of thirty-five acres on Baleveolan (forty acres, twenty of which was arable, in 1871) and by 1881 he had been succeeded by his son Dugald.²³ He acted as secretary and treasurer of the Society, but also competed very actively, winning premiums for sown grass, turnips, breeding cows, milk cows, stirks, heifers, horses and bulls.

John McIntyre (c.1812-97), son of an Achinduin tenant, already had a tenancy of his own at Salen in 1841 (thirty acres in 1851).²⁴ At some point, probably in the 1850s, he took over the running of the lime kilns there, as he is described in 1861 as a farmer and lime burner.²⁵ He was an ambitious farmer, moving by 1871 to the 400 cleared acres of Baligrundle, and then on to a farm at Glensanda (mainland Argyll) by 1881.²⁶ The 1891 Census found him

back on Lismore, retired at Point House, where he died in 1897. His business activities had prospered: at his death, his inventory was valued at £3,765. He was a steady supporter of the Society, serving as chairman of the managing committee at least to 1868, and acting as its auditor. Over the years, he won prizes in all the crop and livestock classes.

*Did the Society Achieve its Purpose of
Improving the Agriculture of the Island?*

Analysis of the premiums awarded in the 1850s shows that the three aforementioned ‘leaders’ and a few prominent tenants, such as the Carmichaels and McGregors on Achuaran, tended to dominate the competitions. The record of one of the smaller tenants, however, shows how others could benefit from the opportunities offered by the Society.

Miles Black (1787-1872) was a small tenant on Baleveolan township, farming thirty to thirty-five acres, due to pay £28 in rent. His Christian name appears to be English but it was actually an anglicisation of the Gaelic Maolios (servant of Jesus), which seems to have been common on Lismore in the past. He was chronically in arrears of rent from the early 1830s, but, by 1840, he was co-operating with the factor, Allan MacDougall, to undertake improvements to set against them: dyking was followed by the introduction of rotations, and the installation of subsoil drainage. The latter was no easy task in difficult terrain:

I thought Myles & Duncan Black would themselves see that it is impossible to say what allowance ought to be made them for work only part finished and you did quite right in telling them first to finish the drains at least the part cut through rock and they may then be estimated.²⁷

However, by the year of the launch of the Society, Black’s passbook showed that he had made great progress during the Potato Famine years:²⁸

Baleveolan 22 December 1853	
June 22 1846 By allowance for 95 roods drains at 2/- entered in rent book	£9.10.0
December 18 th 1848 By allowance for 64 roods drains at 2/-	£6.8.0
June 23 1852 By dyke and drains	£12.8.6
[Total]	£28.6.6

With his debt to the estate in 1847 amounting to more than £21, the £18.16.6 earned by 1853 meant that he was finally nearly free from twenty years of arrears.

With a start made on drainage, enclosure and rotations, Black (now in his late sixties) and his son John (described as a ploughman, aged 34, in 1851)²⁹ were now in a position to benefit from membership of the Society. Their record shows that they were specialising in livestock, winning premiums in the smaller tenant class between 1853 and 1862 for forage crops (sown grass and turnips), stirks, heifers and horses. Probably their best year was 1860, when they were 1st for sown grass, 2nd for turnips and 1st for stirks. They were also able to compete successfully in open classes for grass and heifers, and their total prize money over these years was £5, most of which would have been invested in equipment. They were able to hold their own in the competition classes for smaller tenants with Peter McDougall, who also farmed thirty-five acres on Baleveolan. Meanwhile, John was a prize-winner at the ploughing matches in 1861 and 1863, earning 7/6 in cash. Their income from the Society was a good return on their annual subscription of 2/4. In spite of their reputation as farmers and prize-winners, the Black holding disappeared in the rationalisation of Baleveolan in the 1870s, but John's value was later recognised in his role as farm manager on the estate.³⁰

Legacies

The initial enthusiasm for the Society diminished during the 1850s, with the number of subscribing tenants falling from forty to sixteen in 1862. Most

of the remaining members were active competitors. Nevertheless, a lasting institution had been established: the February/March ploughing match and the August livestock show continued to be popular events on the social calendar of the island up to the eve of the Second World War.³¹ Later in the nineteenth century, achievements in ploughing matches were recognised by medals from the HASS. The Lismore Museum holds three of these: John McDonald, Achnacroish, in 1878; John MacCorquodale, Balure, in 1883 (Fig. 4); and Dugald Campbell, Killean, in 1902. One unexplored legacy, however, is the extent to which the business of the Society, conducted in English by men whose everyday language was Gaelic, was a contributor to the decline of the language on the island. The Lismore Agricultural Society archive contains documents relating to the annual ploughing match and August show from 1913 to the last show in 1938, featuring posters, catalogues, prize tickets and correspondence about supplies and prizes.³² All of it is in English.

It is encouraging to report that, in 2016, the August livestock show was resurrected by the enthusiasm of the Carmichael family, Baligrundle. The event was a popular success and looks set, again, to be an annual feature of the social life of the island.³³

Notes

¹ A role also performed by Tiree. See Hay, R K M. Tiree – a perspective from Lismore. In *The Secret Island: Towards a History of Tiree*, Isle of Lewis, 2014, 407-15.

² National Records of Scotland [NRS], GD112/9/1/2, Breadalbane Muniments, Rentals of Lorn, Lismore and Benderloch, 1675. The customary rents on the Campbell of Airds townships on Lismore (all of which had been converted to cash by 1840) had also included eggs, poultry, seal oil, yarn and oatmeal, together with an allowance for wrecks. See NRS, GD174/1166, Maclaine of Lochbuie Papers, Particulars and Rental of the Farms for sale by Campbell of Airds, 1839/40.

- ³ Captain Pole to Sir E Coffin, 21 December 1846. In *Correspondence from July 1846 to February 1847 relating to the Measures Adopted for the Relief of the Distress in Scotland*, London, 1847.
- ⁴ NRS, GD170/569/2/1/00001, Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine, Rentals, reports and valuations, Rental of Barcaldine's lands on Lismore, 1840.
- ⁵ Lismore Archive, CC010, Letter 31, Allan MacDougall to Coll Livingston, 15 January 1840.
- ⁶ But see, Self, S, Rampino, M R and Carr, M J. A reappraisal of the 1835 eruption of Cosiguina and its atmospheric impact, *Bull. Volcanol.*, 52 (1989), 57-65.
- ⁷ The persistence of rigs is confirmed by Allan MacDougall's advice in 1838 that the new subsoil drains should be placed 'in the hollow twixt the ridges' (Lismore Archive, CC010, Letter 22, Allan MacDougall to Coll Livingston, 22 January 1838).
- ⁸ The letters are held in Lismore Archive, CC010, individually numbered. For a discussion, see Hay, R K M. Improvement not Clearance: a factor's instructions to his ground officers on the Isle of Lismore, 1831-46, *Review of Scottish Culture*, 22 (2010), 99-119.
- ⁹ *New Statistical Account* VII (1841), 223-56: Lismore and Appin.
- ¹⁰ Argyll Papers, Bundle 290, Kelp Account, 1790/1.
- ¹¹ For the first description of the houses at Port Ramsay see, Campbell, A. *Missionary and Ministerial Life in the Highlands*, Edinburgh, 1853.
- ¹² NRS, GD170/2245, Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine, Letter from Duncan Black to Sir Duncan Campbell of Barcaldine, 1830-34.
- ¹³ NRS, GR2644/65, Sasine for Alexander Haig of Blairhall, 21 July 1853.
- ¹⁴ 1841 Census Records. With a history of trouble between miller and tenants at Baligrundle, McColl was probably content to move. See NRS, GD170/564/9/00002, Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine, Petitions, Petition of Donald McColl miller at Balingrundell, to Duncan Campbell of Barcaldine, complaining that tenants refuse to pay dues of barley, 1817.
- ¹⁵ Lismore Archive, LISDD:2007.C, Lismore Agricultural Society Minute Book, 1853-67.

¹⁶ Lismore Archive, LISDD:2007.A1, Diary of Mary Cameron McNab, 1868.

¹⁷ Premiums for improving the breed of work horses had been commenced in Appin in 1816. Although Lismore is not in Appin, Carmichael perhaps qualified because he was a tenant of Campbell of Airds, or because the parishes of Appin and Lismore were united. Carmichael was awarded three guineas. See Ramsay, A. *History of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*, Edinburgh, 1879, 573.

¹⁸ NSA VII (1841), 234: Lismore and Appin.

¹⁹ See Lismore Archive, Rev. Gregor McGregor's private record book.

²⁰ Lismore Archive, LISDD:2009.N1-7, Letters from Cape Breton to Lismore.

²¹ *Oban Times*, 21 February 1874.

²² Peter McDougall does not feature in any Scottish matriculation list, and so does not appear to have been a university graduate. Note, however, that the birthplace of his wife was St Andrews.

²³ 1861, 1871 and 1881 Census Records.

²⁴ 1841 and 1851 Census Records.

²⁵ 1861 Census Records.

²⁶ 1871 and 1881 Census Records.

²⁷ Lismore Archive, CC010, Letter 68, Allan MacDougall to Alexander Livingston, 11 November 1844.

²⁸ Dunollie Archive, Box R.

²⁹ 1851 Census Records.

³⁰ 1871, 1881 and 1891 Census Records.

³¹ Lismore Archive, LISDD:2007.C.

³² Lismore Archive, LISDD:2007.C.

³³ This is an abridged version of the article: Hay, R K M. The minute book of the Lismore Agricultural Society, 1853-1868: a window on Improvement on a Hebridean island, *Review of Scottish Culture*, 28 (forthcoming).

EDITING

Although the page edges of the original Minute Book are worn and soiled, virtually all of the text is legible. The organisation and order of the book deteriorates after 1859 when the entries are on blue pages stitched into the book. The published text follows the book order. Hand-drawn columns for £, S and D were added to the blank pages of the book when the annual subscriptions were being recorded. These have been reproduced here, and for clarity extended to include the names of the subscribers. Misspellings and variations in both personal and farm names have been retained. Farm names are not repeated in the subscriber lists. Otherwise, the text presented here reproduces the entire Minute Book in the form in which it has survived.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Lismore Agricultural Society archive, preserved in its inscribed metal box, survived owing to the care of the last secretary, the late John David MacColl, Balnagown, Lismore. It was donated to the archive by his son, Archibald MacColl, who has, over the years, been an active and generous member and director of the Lismore Historical Society/Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr. The text of the Minute Book is reproduced with the permission of the directors of the Lismore Historical Society/Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr.



Fig. 1 Front cover of the Minute Book. Card bound octavo jotter (10.25" x 8.5"). (Courtesy of Lismore Historical Society/Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr)

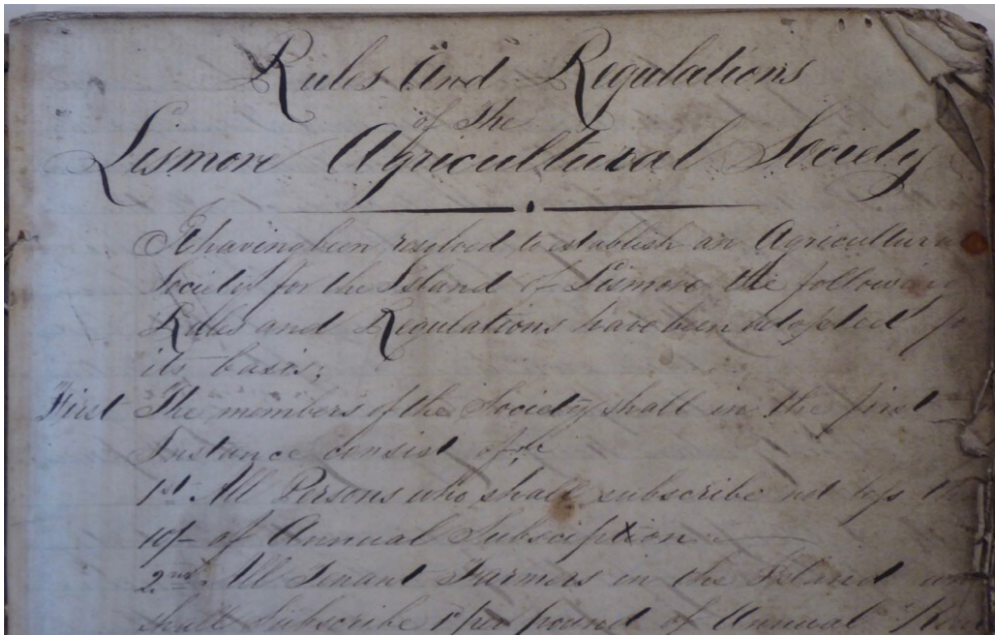


Fig. 2 Page 1 of the Minute Book in the copperplate hand of Peter McDougall, secretary and treasurer of the Society. (Courtesy of Lismore Historical Society/Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr)

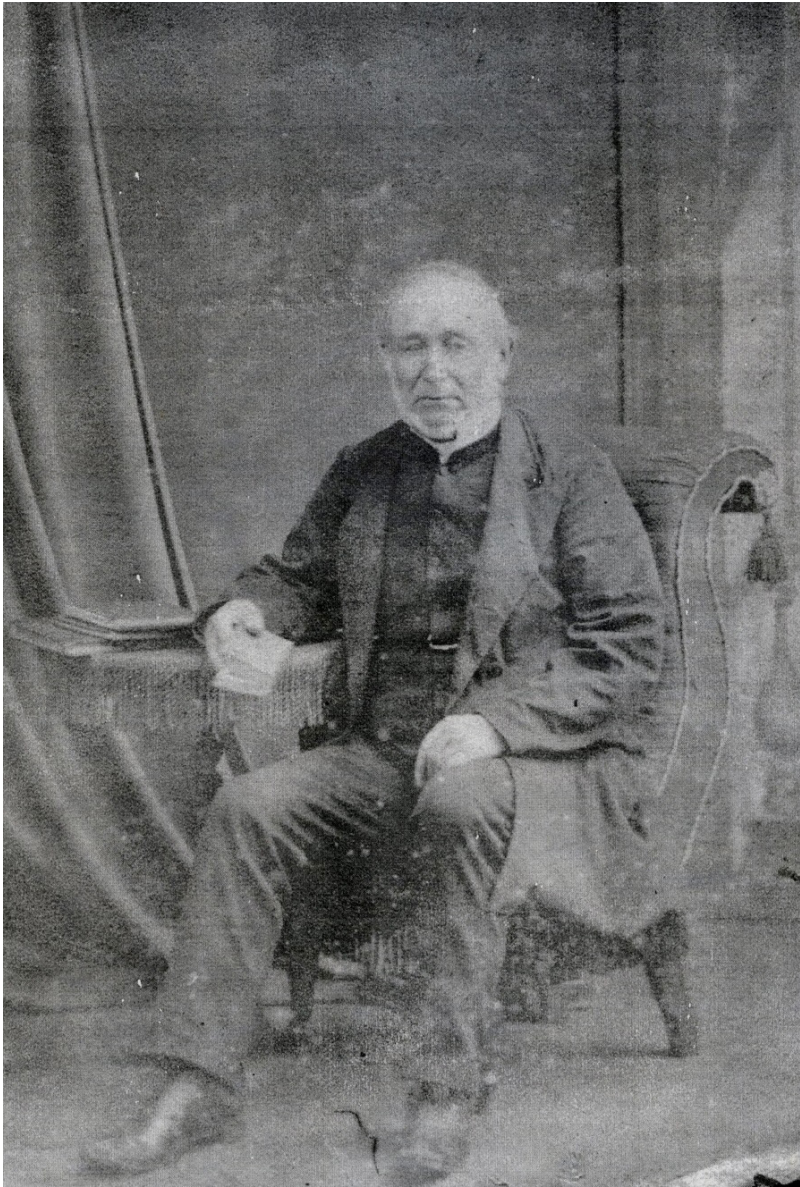


Fig. 3 Reverend Gregor McGregor, minister of Lismore and Appin (1836-85). (Courtesy of Lismore Historical Society/Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr)



Fig. 4 The obverse and reverse of a ploughing match medal awarded to John McCorquodale, Balure, in 1883. (Courtesy of Lismore Historical Society/ Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr)



Fig. 5 Map of Lismore, from the Ordnance Survey's one-inch to the mile series. (Courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

KEY

A.	Campbell of Lochnell
B.	Campbell of Baleveolan
C.	James Auchinleck Cheyne WS
H.	Alexander Haig

1.	Point/Ruardganich	14.	Kilandrist
2.	Big Park	15.	Balnagown
3.	Port Ramsay	16.	Killean
4.	Fennachrochain	17.	Baleveolan
5.	Achuaran	18.	Tighfuil
6.	Baligarve	19.	Achnacroish
7.	Portcastle	20.	Tirlaggan
8.	Clachan/Tayanlochan	21.	Salen
9.	Manse	22.	Craignich
10.	Balimakilichan	23.	Baligrundle
11.	Balure	24.	Frackersaig
12.	Tirfuir	25.	Kilcheran
13.	Portcharron	26.	Achinduin

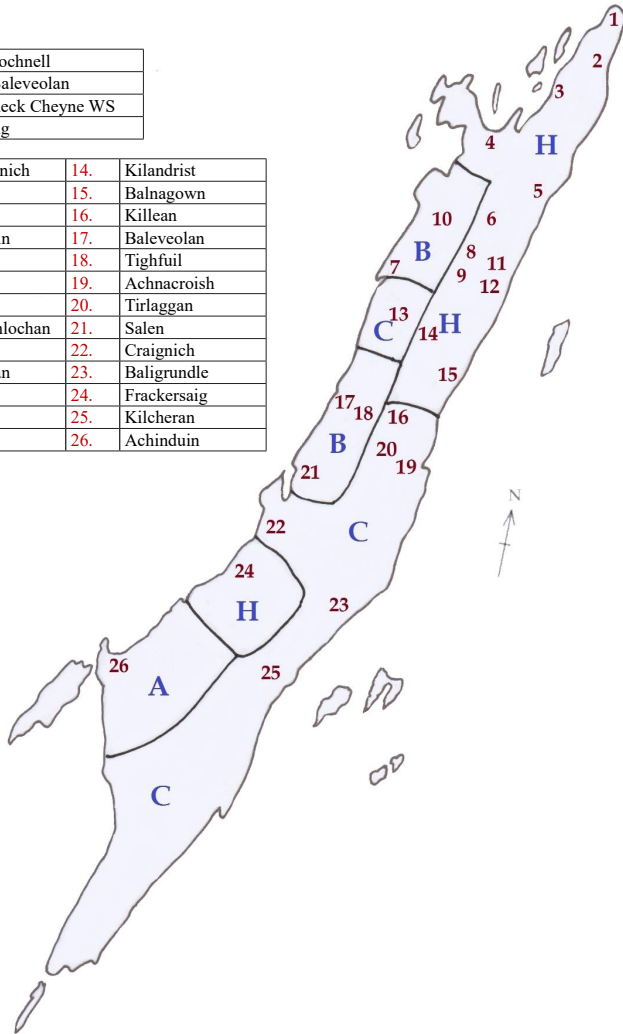


Fig. 6 Sketch map of Lismore showing the estates and the location of places named in the text (modern spellings) c. 1853. The south-east corner of the island was empty because of the Cheyne clearances.

(Cartography by Robert Hay)

Lismore
Agricultural
Society
1853

[Inside front cover]

[illegible] Received from D Black, Miller, 8/- Arrears to
Lismore Agricultural Society
P McDougall, Treasurer

LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

RULES AND REGULATIONS

It having been resolved to establish an Agricultural Society for the Island of Lismore the following Rules and Regulations have been adopted for its basis:

First

The members of the Society shall in the first instance consist of:

1st All persons who shall subscribe not less than 10/- of Annual Subscription.

2nd All Tenant Farmers in the Island shall subscribe 1d per pound of Annual Rent which subscription to be in no case less than 1/- nor of necessity more than 5/- Annually.

Second

A General meeting of the Society shall be held on the [...] in each year at which all members not in Arrear of Subscription shall be entitled to attend and vote.

Third

Office Bearers for the year ensuing shall be chosen at the said General Meeting from their own Members, *viz.* a President and Secretary, who may

also act as Treasurer being obliged to find security for his [subscription] with the funds of the Society, and [a] Managing Committee of not more than seven Persons besides the Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be a member *ex officio*; three to be a *quorum*.

Fourth

The Managing Committee to conduct all the affairs of the Society during the Term of Office, to choose their own Chairman, who is to have a casting vote besides his original vote, and manage their own time and place of meeting. Also to call Special General Meetings of the Society when necessary giving a week previous notice.

Fifth

Subscriptions shall be due on the first day of January for the year then commencing and must be paid on or before the third Tuesday of January otherwise subscribers shall be considered in Arrear and loose [*sic*] the Privileges of Members of the Society. They may however be restored to these Privileges by [the] Managing Committee on payment of arrears.

Sixth

That the Society be formed for the purpose of awarding Premiums to promote the foregoing objects:

1st Ploughing and Spade Labour

2nd Stock and Dairy Produce

3rd Cropping and Cultivation

Seventh

That in regard to Cropping, Premiums to be given in two classes:

1st Class. All Members and Tenants paying above £30 of Rent

2nd Class. Tenants paying £30 and under

Eighth

The Rules of Competition shall be those of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland for District Competitions in the Highlands except when specially provided otherwise by the Society and the Premiums awarded instead of being given in money shall be given as much as possible in Agricultural Implements, Dairy Utensils or Articles of that Description.

Ninth

Each Member of the Society shall be obliged if required to make a Declaration that the Article exhibited by him answers to the Rules of the Society in every particular.

Tenth

In each year a Ploughing and Spade Match will be held in the Month of February or March and the Competition for Stock, Dairy Produce and Crop will be in August – the days to be fixed at the Annual Meeting in December or by the Managing Committee who shall be entitled to make and carry out all necessary arrangements not come to at the Annual Meeting. Lists of Premiums to be intimated by them in due time before the day of competition.

Eleventh

Every person becoming a member of the Society shall sign these Rules and Regulations and shall be held to continue a member each succeeding year unless he gives in a written Notice of Resignation to the Secretary at least ten days before the General Meeting in [.....].

Twelfth

None of these Rules and Regulations can be altered except at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and written Notice of any proposed alteration must be lodged with the Secretary at least one month previous to said Annual Meeting and such proposed alteration shall be intimated by the

Secretary in the notices of the Meeting. Members of the Society are alone entitled to compete for the Society's premiums. The Secretary to submit accounts for the year at the Annual Meeting.

LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

YEAR 1853

President: James A Cheyne Esqr. of Kilmaron
Secretary: Peter McDougall, Schoolmaster, Baileveolan

Committee:

John Carmichael, Achindown
John McIntyre, Salen
Walter Dunn, Killichiarain
Revd. Gregor McGregor of Lismore
Donald Carmichael, Achaurain
Donald McColl, Rhuardganich
John Campbell, Creaganaich

Premiums:

Ploughing 1st prize £1; 2nd 10/-; 3rd 7/6; 4th 5/-
Spading 1st prize 10/-; 2nd 5/-; 3rd 2/6
Dairy Produce (not less than 1st butter and 1st cheese) 1st prize £1; 2nd 10/-;
3rd 5/-
Best Set of Dairy Utensils 10/-

Crops, 1st Class. Tenants above £30 p.a.

1st Prize Best 3 acres of oats 12/-; 2nd Prize 8/-

1st Prize Best 1 acre of sown grass 12/-; 2nd Prize 8/-

1st Prize Best $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of turnips 12/-; 2nd Prize 8/-

Crops, 2nd Class. Tenants at £30 p.a. and under

1st Prize Best 2 acres of oats 9/-; 2nd Prize 6/-

1st Prize Best $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of sown grass 9/-; 2nd Prize 6/-

1st Prize Best $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of turnips 9/-; 2nd Prize 6/-

Horses

1st Prize £1; 2nd Prize 10/-

Cattle

1st Prize Best Highland Cow for rearing purposes £1; 2nd Prize 10/-

1st Prize Best Milch Cow of any kind £1; 2nd Prize 10/-

1st Prize Best lot of 2 Stirks of any kind for tenants above £30 [per annum]
10/-; 2nd Prize 5/-

1st Prize Best Stirk of any kind for tenants of £30 per annum and under 7/6;
2nd Prize 5/-

1st Prize Best two year old Heifer bred by the exhibitor 12/-;
2nd Prize 10/-; 3rd Prize 8/-

Subscribers to Lismore Agricultural Society under the Rules and Regulations adopted for it, February 1853 For 1853

	£	S	D
James A Cheyne Esqr.	5	-	-
Alexander Haig Esqr.	5	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	2	-	-
Allan McDougall Esqr.	1	-	-
Walter Dun	-	10	6
Lewis Grant M.D.	-	5	-
Carried forward	£13	15	6

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	S	D	£	S	D
Donald Connell, Balnagoun	18	-	1	6	-	1	6
Duncan Black	52	-	4	4	-	-	-
Hugh Carmichael, Kilandrist	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
Malcolm McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Duncan McColl	63	-	-	5	-	5	-
Dugald McColl, Bailegarbh	23	-	1	11	-	1	11
Dugald McCallum	16	-	1	4	-	1	4
Duncan Black	25	-	2	1	-	-	-
John Livingston, Balure	34	-	2	10	-	2	10
John Carmichael	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
D & J Livingston	31	-	2	7	-	2	7
Duncan Black	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
John McGregor, Achaurain	86	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	96	-	5	-	-	5	-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

D & D Carmichael	32	-	2	8	-	-	-
Dugald McGregor, Tirfuir	36	-	3	-	-	-	-
Niel Carmichael, Fenachrochdain	88	-	5	-	-	5	-
Alexander McCormack	70	-	5	-	-	5	-
Duncan Black, Achanduin	20	-	1	8	-	1	8
Alexander McIntyre	80	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Carmichael	26	-	2	2	-	-	-
Colin Campbell	41	-	3	5	-	3	4
John Carmichael	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
Archibald Campbell, Creaganaich	50	-	4	2	-	4	2
John McIntyre, Salen	72	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois	22	-	1	10	-	1	10
Duncan Black	36	-	3	-	-	3	-
Donald McColl	41	-	3	4	-	3	4
Hugh Buchanan	40	-	3	4	-	-	-
Allan McCorquodale, Tirlaggan	48	-	4	-	-	4	-
Duncan Campbell, Creaganaich	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
John McIntyre, Killean	50	-	4	2	-	4	-
Revd Gregor McGregor	18	-	1	6	-	1	6
Niel Black, Killean	24	-	-	2	-	2	-
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
Miles Black, Baileveolan	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Peter McDougall	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
Amount of subscriptions for 1853					£19	11	7
Amount received at this date 27 December 1853					17	8	7
1853 December 27 th Arrears due at this date					£2	3	0
To Subscription received for Lismore Agricultural Society					£17	8	7
1853 December 27 th To Balance					£1	19	7

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Cash [*i.e.* expenditure]

By	£	S	D
A Carmichael, Kilandrist	1	-	-
Angus McDonald	-	7	6
A McCorquodale	-	5	-
John McColl	-	10	-
Refreshment to Corn and Hay Judges	-	7	6
John Carmichael, Bailure	-	9	-
Allan McCorquodale, Tirlagain	-	5	-
John Campbell	-	10	-
John McIntyre, Killean	-	12	-
Donald Carmichael, Achaurain	-	8	-
Niel Black, Killean	-	11	-
John McIntyre, Salen	1	8	0
P McDougall, Baileveolan	2	2	0
Revd Gregor McGregor	2	15	0
Alexander McIntyre, Achanduin	-	10	-
Duncan McColl	-	12	-
Miles Black, Baileveolan	-	15	-
Donald McColl, Point	-	5	-
Donald McIntyre, Salen	-	15	6
Alexander McCormack	-	10	-
4 Postages 2 stamps Receipts and Stationery	-	1	6
1853 December 27 th Balance in Treasurer's hands at this date	1	19	7
	£17	8	7

By appointment of the Society we have this day examined the above accounts and found them correct.

G McGregor

John McIntyre

Clachan 5 January 1854

At Killichiarain the 16th day of March 1853

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society being met, present Messrs W Dunn, John Carmichael, John McIntyre and P McDougall. Resolved according to their former meeting that the Ploughing Match will take place on the farm at Killichiarain tomorrow according to the following conditions. That the ploughing is to be no more than eight inches broad and not less than five inches deep in the furrow. The ploughs to start as soon as possible after 10 o'clock A M., and their operations to be finished at three P.M. Competitors to be served with tickets by lottery. That each of the Competitors shall immediately on the tickets being drawn repair with his plough to the ticket in the field corresponding to the number on the ticket drawn. Any of the competitors failing to comply with the above regulations shall forfeit all title or claim to a prize.

John Carmichael [*signed*]

The Ploughing Match took place this day 17 March 1853 when fifteen competitors entered the field and after a keen competition the judges, *viz.* Messrs Walter Dunn, Duncan McColl and John Black, awarded the prizes. 1st Prize to Alexander Carmichael, Kilandrist. 2nd John McColl, Achnacrois. 3rd Angus McDonald, Killichiarain. 4th Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist.

The Committee appointed Mr P McDougall Treasurer and gave him instructions to call a meeting at his earliest convenience to consider the best method of collecting the subscriptions. It was then proposed that Mr Donald Carmichael ought to be struck off the roll as a member of Committee and as a subscriber for his withdrawing his plough from the competition, which case was deferred till the committee meet and to be taken into their serious consideration.

Walter Dunn [*signed*]

Tayanlochain 13 June 1853

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met conformed to circulars issued by the Secretary. Present Revd G McGregor, Messrs W Dunn, John Carmichael, John McIntyre and P McDougall. The committee took into consideration the best method of collecting the subscriptions of the members of the Society and resolved that the Ground Officers on the several Properties in Lismore should be entrusted with collecting from the members resident on the properties on which they serve respectively, and lists of members in conformity with this resolution were made up to be distributed accordingly by the Secretary. The Committee then took up the case of Mr Donald Carmichael Achaurain and considering that so few of Members of Committee are [*sic*] present postponed the same to a future meeting. The committee then appointed the competitions for sown grass to take place on the 22nd of June current – Messrs Dugald McCallum, P McDougall and Donald McIntyre Salen were to be judges and their decision to be given in to the Secretary to be kept by him till the day of the General Competition in August.

G McGregor [*signed*]

Killichiarain, Lismore 16th June 1853

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs W Dunn, Peter McDougall, Donald Carmichael, Donald McColl, Archibald Campbell and John McIntyre. The case of Mr Donald Carmichael was discussed and found that his plough was withdrawn from the field of labour without his consent and the committee was satisfied and relieved him of all blame. The committee revised the Roll of Premiums and adjusted the same. The committee instructed the Secretary to call a meeting of the Society early in August and to pay off all arrears of premiums due to the ploughing competitors.

Walter Dunn [*signed*]

Killandrist 4th August 1853

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met and conformed to circulars issued by the Secretary. Present Messrs John McIntyre Salen, Archibald Campbell Creaganaich, Donald Carmichael and P McDougall. The Committee then fixed Wednesday the 17th Current for the Competition of Horses and Black Cattle and Dairy Produce and Dairy Utensils and hereby nominate Messrs Duncan McCallum Lait, Donald McDonald Dunolly and Donald Cameron Errack to be judges of the forenamed. The oats and turnips are to be judged the previous day, Tuesday the 16th Current, and nominated Messrs Donald McColl Tayanlochain, John McCorquodale Tighfuil and Connell Connell Bailenagoun judges for the oats and turnips.

Peter McDougall [*signed*]

At Tayanlochain the 12th day of November 1853

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met conformed to circulars issued by the Secretary. Present Revd G McGregor, Messrs Walter Dunn, John Carmichael, Archibald Campbell, Donald McColl, John McIntyre, Donald Carmichael, [and] Peter McDougall, Treasurer and Secretary. Mr McGregor in the chair, the Secretary stated that his act in calling this meeting was to make a regular statement of the several competitions that took place among the members of the Society during the season and to publish the accounts of the judges as to the successful competitors and accordingly he stated as follows: that there competed

17 breeding cows
7 milk cows
22 stirks in 1st class
5 stirks in 2nd class
17 heifers

That the Prizes were awarded as follows:

Sown Grass, 1st Class

1st Prize John McIntyre, Killean
2nd John McIntyre, Salen

Sown Grass, 2nd Class

1st Prize Revd Gregor McGregor, Lismore Manse
2nd Myles Black, Baileveolan

Oats, 1st Class

1st Prize Mr Duncan McColl, Clachan
2nd Mr John McIntyre, Salen

Oats, 2nd Class

1st Prize Mr John Carmichael, Bailure

2nd Mr Niel Black, Killean

Turnips, 1st Class

1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

2nd Mr Donald Carmichael, Achaurain

Turnips, 2nd Class

1st Prize Mr Myles Black, Baileveolan

2nd Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse

Breeding Cows

1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

2nd Mr Archibald Campbell, Creaganaich

Milk Cows

1st Prize Revd G McGregor, Manse

2nd Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

Stirks, 1st Class

1st Prize Mr Alexander McCormick, Port Ramsay

2nd Mr Allan McCorquodale, Tirlagain

Stirks, 2nd Class

1st Prize Mr Donald McIntyre, Salen

2nd Mr Niel Black, Killean

Heifers

1st Prize Mr John McIntyre, Salen

2nd Mr Alexander McIntyre, Achanduin

3rd Mr Donald McIntyre, Salen

Dairy Produce

1 st Prize	Mr McGregor, Manse
2 nd	Mr McDougall, Baileveolan
3 rd	Mr McColl, Ruardganich

The Committee finding it necessary, from circumstances that the prizes should be paid for the year in money, rather than in Agricultural implements, agreed that they be so paid and instructed the Treasurer accordingly.

Gregor McGregor, Chairman [*signed*]

At Clachan the 5th day of January 1854

A General [meeting] of the members of the Lismore Agricultural Society held, conform to intimation issued by the Secretary, when it was moved that the Revd G MacGregor to take the chair, which was agreed, and Mr MacGregor took the chair accordingly. The Secretary then stated that he had called a General Meeting to be held in the Baligarve School House in the month of December last in terms of the regulations of the Society but that owing to unpropitious weather and the circumstances no meeting took place which rendered it necessary to call this meeting. The Accounts of last year was examined and found to be correctly [reset] and standing as follows, viz.

Account of subscriptions	£19.11.7
Of which recovered	£17.8.7
Arrears still due	£2.3.0
Paid in prizes	£15.9.0

Leaving in the Treasurer's hands at this date the sum of 19/7.

The Society then proceeded to elect Office Bearers and a Committee of Management for the ensuing year, when it was moved and seconded and unanimously agreed that Alexander Haig Esq. be appointed President and he was appointed accordingly. The Society agreed to alter the third clause of the Regulations so far as to substitute the word nine for seven.

Mr Peter McDougall was then unanimously elected as Secretary and Treasurer. The following members were appointed to the Committee of Management, namely the Revd Gregor MacGregor, Mr John McColl Bailemackichan, Mr John McIntyre Salen, Mr Donald Carmichael Achauran, Mr Archibald Campbell Creaganich, Mr Alexander McIntyre Achanduin, Mr D McDonald Killichiarain, Mr Dugald McCallum Bailegarbh, Mr Donald McColl Achnacrois.

The following Committee were appointed to view the different fields in the neighbourhood in order to ascertain the best place for holding the ploughing match during the ensuing spring: Mr John McColl Bailemackichan, Alexander McIntyre Achanduin, Dugald McCallum Bailegarbh, with instruction to report to the Secretary as soon as possible.

Gregor McGregor, Chairman [*signed*]

Bailegrundle School House 4th February 1854

The Committee of the Agricultural Society met here this day, present Messrs J McIntyre, D McDonald, Archibald Campbell, P McDougall, Donald Carmichael and Dugald McCallum. Agreed that the Ploughing Match to take place at Big Park on the farm of Mr Niel Carmichael on Thursday 23 Current and appointed Mr D McDonald Killichiaran, Mr John McIntyre Salen and Hugh Carmichael Creaganbreac judges, and their decision to be final, the Rules of Competition to be the same as adopted for last year.

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Big Park the 23rd day of February 1854

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met conform to the minute of the 4th Current, all the members being present. Mr McGregor in the chair.

The Committee were present at the Ploughing Match which took place here this day and have received the decision of the judges that were appointed to decide on the merits of the Competitors, who appeared on the field as follows. There were 18 ploughs on the field and the judges having examined carefully the work performed awarded the prizes as follows:

Archibald McCorquodale	Kilandrist	1 st prize	15/-
Gilbert Carmichael	Bailure	2 nd	13/-
Alexander Carmichael	Achaurain	3 rd	11/-
Alexander McIntyre	Achanduin	4 th	9/-
Neil Livingston	Manse	5 th	7/-
John McColl	Achnacrois	6 th	5/-

The meeting authorizes the Chairman and Clark to extend this minute in due form.

Gregor McGregor, Chairman [*signed*]

At Tayfuil, Lismore the [10]th day of June 1854

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Mr Peter McDougall, Mr Donald McColl, Mr John McColl, Mr Alexander McIntyre, Mr John McIntyre and Mr Donald Carmichael. Mr John McIntyre was appointed Chairman.

The Committee adopted the same method as last year for collecting the subscription. The Secretary produced a letter from Mr Gregorson urging on the Committee that the premiums of this year be awarded in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Society and this meeting agreed thereto. The Committee then appointed the competition for sown grass to take place on the 29th of June current. Messrs Donald McIntyre Achanduin, John McColl Portcastle, Connel Connell Bailenagown and Duncan Black Achanduin, if required, were appointed judges and their decision to be given in to the Secretary to be kept by him till the day of the General Competition.

John McIntyre, Chairman [*signed*]

At Kilandrist 12th August 1854

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met. Present Revd Gregor McGregor, Messrs D McDonald, John McIntyre, Donald McIntyre, Dugald McCallum, Archibald Campbell, Donald Carmichael, John McColl, P McDougall. The meeting unanimously appointed Mr Donald McDonald Chairman. The meeting agreed that the competition for oats and turnips to take place on Monday the 21st of August Current, and the judges to be Messrs Donald McColl Laggan, Donald McGregor Bailegarbh and Donald McColl Tayenlochain and in the case of any of these not offering to act it was ordained that Connel Connell should be substituted. The Committee then agreed that the competition of stock and dairy produce to be held on Tuesday the 22nd of August Current. The judges to be Captain Hugh Stevenson Oban, Mr Donald Sinclair Barcalline, and Mr Duncan McCallum Lailt, and it was resolved that such cattle as gained first prizes last year shall not be allowed to compete in the same class this year and further that there be three prizes for each class of cows and stirks and horses of which five lots [to] be exhibited, and it was resolved that no subscriber who shall not have paid his subscription money on or before Saturday the 19th Current shall be allowed to compete for crop or stock. The stock to be on the field of Portcarran at 10 o'clock fore noon and the dairy produce at the schoolhouse of Kilandrist at the same time.

Donald McDonald [*signed*]

Tyfuil, Baileveolan 6th November 1854

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met. Present Messrs John McIntyre, Donald Carmichael, John McColl, Dugald McCallum, Archibald Campbell and P McDougall, Secretary. The meeting unanimously elected Mr John McIntyre as Chairman. The Secretary read minutes of the 12th August which were approved of. The Secretary stated that his object of calling this meeting was to make statement of the several competitions that took place amongst the members of the Society during this season and to publish the [results] of the judges as to the successful competitions, and accordingly the Secretary stated as follows. That there competed:

12 Breeding Cows; 9 Milch cows; 11 Two year old Heifers; 13 Stirks 1st class; 10 stirks 2nd class; 20 horses; and that the prizes were awarded as follows:

Sown grass, 1st class

1st Prize Mr John McIntyre, Killean
2nd Mr P McDougall, Baileveolan

2nd class

1st Prize Revd Gregor McGregor
2nd Mr Donald McIntyre, Salen

Oats, 1st class

1st Prize Mr John McIntyre, Killean
2nd Mr John McIntyre, Salen

2nd class

1st Prize Mr Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh
2nd Mr John Carmichael, Bailure

Turnips, 1st class

1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan
2nd Mr Alexander McCormick, Port Ramsay

2nd class

1st Prize Mr Miles Black, Baileveolan

2nd Mr Donald McIntyre, Salen

Breeding Cows

1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

2nd Mr Archibald Campbell, Creaganich

3rd Mr Donald Carmichael, Achaurain

Milch Cows

1st Prize D McColl, Tayanlochain

2nd Hugh Buchanan, Achnacrois

3rd Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse

Stirks, 1st class

1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

2nd Donald Carmichael, Achaurain

3rd Allan McCorquodale, Tirlagain

2nd class

1st Prize Duncan Campbell, Creaganaich

2nd Miles Black, Baileveolan

3rd Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh

Two Year Old Heifers

1st Prize Mr N Carmichael, Big Park

2nd John McIntyre, Killean

3rd D McColl, Tayclachan

Horses

1st Prize Mr D Carmichael, Achaurain

2nd John McIntyre, Salen

3rd Miles Black, Baileveolan

Dairy Produce

- 1st Prize Mrs McGregor, Manse
2nd Mrs McDougall, Baileveolan
3rd Mrs H Buchanan, Achnacrois

The Committee refers any other business till another meeting and the Secretary is instructed to call a meeting at his earliest convenience.

John McIntyre, Chairman [*signed*]

Tayanlochain the 29th Day of December 1854

The Managing Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met being duly called by the Secretary. Present Messrs D McDonald, Donald McColl, Archibald Campbell, John McIntyre, Donald Carmichael, Dugald McCallum, Alexander McIntyre, Revd Gregor McGregor. Mr McGregor was appointed Chairman.

The Committee found that their funds this year amount to £19.13.11, and that the sum of £16.1.0 falls to be paid to the successful competitors for prizes at the several competitions that were held this year according to the Regulations of the Society, awarded as follows:

Horses

1st Prize 14/-, 2nd 9/-, 3rd 5/- £1.8.0

Breeding Cows

1st Prize 14/-, 2nd 9/-, 3rd 5/- £1.8.0

Milch Cows

1st Prize 14/-, 2nd 9/-, 3rd 5/- £1.8.0

Heifers

1st Prize 11/-, 2nd 9/-, 3rd 7/- £1.7.0

Stirks, 1st class

1st Prize 7/-, 2nd 5/-, 3rd 2/6 14/6

Stirks, 2nd class

1st Prize 5/6, 2nd 3/6, 3rd 2/6 11/6

Oats, 1st class

1st Prize 11/-, 2nd 7/- 18/-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Oats, 2 nd class	
1 st Prize 8/-, 2 nd 6/-	14/-
Grass, 1 st class	
1 st Prize 11/-, 2 nd 7/6	18/6
Grass, 2 nd class	
1 st Prize 8/-, 2 nd 5/6	13/6
Turnips, 1 st class	
1 st Prize 11/-, 2 nd 7/-	18/-
Turnips, 2 nd class	
1 st Prize 8/-, 2 nd 6/-	14/-
Dairy Produce	
1 st Prize 14/-, 2 nd 9/-, 3 rd 5/-	£1.8.0
Ploughing	
1 st Prize 15/-, 2 nd 13/-, 3 rd 11/-, 4 th 9/-, 5 th 7/-, 6 th 5/-	£3
Total	£16.1.0

And in as much as the premiums are to be given in useful articles suitable to the different [classes] competed for, the Committee appoint a Sub-Committee to consult and determine upon what articles the prizes will consist of. The said Sub-Committee to be Mr Donald McDonald and Mr John McIntyre and Mr P McDougall the Treasurer – Mr McDougall, Convenor, and they are instructed to meet as soon as possible.

Gregor McGregor, Chairman [*signed*]

*Subscribers to Lismore Agricultural Society under
the Rules and Regulations adopted for it.
For 1854*

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	S	D	£	S	D
Trustees of J A Cheyne Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Alexander Haigg Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Allan McDougall Esqr.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Mr Donald McDonald, Killichianan	-	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Connell, Bailenagown	18	-	1	6	-	-	-
Duncan McColl, Kilandrist	63	-	5	-	-	5	-
Hugh Carmichael	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
Malcolm McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh	16	-	1	4	-	1	4
Duncan Black	25	-	2	1	-	2	1
Dugald McColl	23	-	1	11	-	1	11
John Livingston, Bailure	34	-	2	10	-	2	10
John Carmichael	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
Dugald Livingston	31	-	2	7	-	2	7
Duncan Black	35	-	2	11	-	-	-
John McGregor, Achaurain	86	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	96	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald McColl	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
D & D Carmichael	32	-	2	8	-	2	8
Alexander McGregor, Tirfuir	36	-	3	-	-	-	-
Niel Carmichael, Fennachrochan	88	-	5	-	-	5	-
Alexander McCormack	70	-	5	-	-	5	-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Duncan Black, Achinduin	20	-	1	8	-	1	8
Alexander McIntyre	80	-	5	-	-	5	-
Colin Campbell	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
John Carmichael	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
Archibald Campbell, Creaganaich	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
John McIntyre, Salen	72	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois	22	-	1	10	-	-	-
Donald McColl	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Hugh Buchanan	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Allan McCorquodale, Tirlaggan	54	-	4	6	-	4	6
John McIntyre, Killean	50	-	4	2	-	4	2
Niel Black	24	-	2	-	-	2	-
Revd Gregor McGregor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D McColl, Tayanloch	18	-	2	6	-	2	6
Duncan Campbell, Creaganaich	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
John McColl, Portcastle	53	-	4	5	-	-	-
Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
Miles Black	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
		£17	19	2	£16	5	4
Arrears received from							
Allan McDougall Esqr. W.S.					1	-	-
Hugh Buchanan, Achnacrois					-	3	4
D & D Carmichael, Achaurain					-	2	8
A McGregor, Tirfuir					-	3	-
Balance in Treasurer's hands					1	19	9
1854 Subscription received					16	5	4
		£19	13	11			

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

1855 January 24 th Balance in Treasurer's hands at this date	£2	12	11
1854 Cash [<i>i.e.</i> expenditure]			
By Amount of premiums as per minute of 29 th December	16	1	0
Incidental charges	1	-	-
1855 January 24 th balance in Treasurer's hands	2	12	11
Total	£19	13	11

February 16th 1855

By appointment we have this day met and examined the above accounts, and found them all right.

John McIntyre
Donald McColl

Achnacrois, Lismore 16th February 1855

At Achnacrois this day a general meeting of the members of the Lismore Agricultural Society was held conform to intimation issued by the Secretary when it was moved that Mr John McIntyre do take the chair which was agreed to and Mr McIntyre took the chair accordingly. The accounts of last year was examined and found to be correctly kept and standing as follows:

Account of subscriptions received including arrears of last year recovered also funds in the hands of the Secretary	£19.13.11
Amount of premiums and charges paid	£17.1.0
Leaving in Treasurer's hands at this date	£2.12.11

The Society then proceeded to elect office bearers and a Committee of Management for this year, when it was moved seconded and unanimously agreed to elect Angus Gregorson Esqr., Writer, Oban, be appointed President and he was appointed accordingly, and Mr Peter McDougall was then unanimously re-elected Secretary and Treasurer. The following members were appointed as a Committee of Management, namely Mr Niel Carmichael Park, Messrs John McIntyre Salen, Donald McDonald Killichiarain, Donald Carmichael Achaurain, Archibald Campbell Creaganaich, John McColl Achnacrois, Alexander McIntyre Achinduin, Dugald McCallum and John Black Baileveolan. The following committee were appointed to view the different fields in the neighbourhood in order to ascertain the best place for holding a ploughing match this year, *viz.* Messrs Niel Carmichael Park, John Black Baileveolan and John McColl Achnacrois with instructions to report to the Secretary as soon as possible.

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Bailegrundle School House the 10th day of March 1855

A meeting of the Agricultural Society of Lismore was held. Present Messrs Peter McDougall, Donald McDonald, Archibald Campbell, Alexander McIntyre and John McIntyre. Mr John McIntyre was called to take the chair, which he agreed to and Mr McIntyre took the chair accordingly. The Secretary produced the report of the subcommittee appointed at the last meeting to select the best ground to hold the ploughing match this year and their selection was approved of, and the meeting then agreed the ploughing will take place at Creganaich Farm possessed by Mr Archibald Campbell on Thursday the 15th current.

The Committee appointed Mr Gillespie Barcaldine, Mr David Donald Bailure and Mr Duncan McDonald Ruardantune to act as judges and their decision to be final, the committee resolved that no member of the Society will be allowed to select a plowman for that day, but the person that is to work their horses for the season, or himself. Rules of Ploughing as follows: the Slice to be on no account less than 5½ inches deep and the straightest and firmest rigs plowed and finished to carry the prizes and no person to enter the plowed land but those competing.

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Creganaich the 15th day of March 1855

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met conform to the minute of the 10th current. Members present Messrs P McDougall, Archibald Campbell and John McIntyre, Mr McIntyre in the chair. The Committee were present at the Plouwing [*sic*] Match which took place here this day and have received the decision of the judges formerly appointed to decide on the merits of the competitors who appeared on the field as follows, *viz.*

There were fifteen plows on the field and the judges having examined carefully the work performed awarded the prizes as follows:

1 st	Malcolm Carmichael, Park	15/-
2 nd	John McColl, Achnacrois	13/-
3 rd	Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist	11/-
4 th	Alexander Carmichael, Achauarain	9/-
5 th	Dugald McGregor, Achauarain	7/-
6 th	Angus McDonald, Killichiarain	5/-
	Total	£3

Mr Campbell of the firm of Campbell and McNair, Saddles, Oban, handed to the treasurer the sum of 10/- for two prizes of five shillings each, which were awarded as follows:

John McIntyre, Salen	Best groomed horse	5/-
Dugald McCallum, Bailegarve	Best old harness	5/-

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Tayfuil the 25th day of June 1855

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs Peter McDougall, Donald McDonald, Niel Carmichael, Archibald Campbell, Alexander McIntyre, John Black, John McIntyre, John McColl and Donald Carmichael, Mr McIntyre in the chair. The Committee then appointed the competition for Sown Grass to take place on Thursday the 5th day of July current. Messrs Duncan Carmichael Killichiarain, Donald McColl Tayanlochan, Connal Connell Bailenangoun and Duncan Carmichael Killandrist, if required, were appointed judges and the same to be continued judges for all the growing crops of this season and their decision in all cases to be final, the same to be reported to the Secretary for presentation at the General Competition, which is to take place on the farm of Portcarran on the 21st of August. Judges Messrs Donald Sinclair Achanreis, Duncan McCallum Lailt and Duncan Sinclair of Strontoiller. The competition for crops to take place on the preceding day. Rules and Regulations of the General Competition to be the same as last year.

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Tayanlochain, Lismore the 18th day of August 1855

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs Donald McDonald, Peter McDougall, Donald Carmichael, Niel Carmichael, Archibald Campbell, Dugald McCallum, John McColl, Alexander McIntyre, John Black and John McIntyre. Mr McIntyre was called to take the chair and he took the chair accordingly. The Committee then by majority of votes agreed that stirks purchased on or before the May Oban Cattle Market might compete at the competition to be held here on Tuesday first. The Committee then determined to adhere strictly on the day of competition to the ninth article of the Regulations regarding stock exhibited to be Bona fide the property of the exhibitor.

John McIntyre [*signed*]

Clachan 13 December 1855

The Lismore Agricultural Society being met at the General Meeting according to the Rules and Regulations, present P McDougall, Secretary, Donald McDonald Kilchiarain, Dugald McColl, Donald Carmichael, Alexander McIntyre, John McColl, John Black, Archibald Campbell. In the absence of John McIntyre Salen, Donald McDonald Kilchiarain is called upon to take the chair and he took the chair accordingly. The meeting proceeded to elect office bearers for the following year and agreed unanimously that the following gentlemen be re-elected: A Gregorson Esqr., Banker, Oban, as President and Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan, Secretary and Treasurer. The following members are chosen as a committee of management, *viz*: Mr John McIntyre Salen, Chairman, Donald McDonald Kilichiarain, Donald Carmichael Achauarain, Archibald Campbell Creganaich, John Black Baileveolan, John McColl Achnacrois, Alexander McIntyre Achanduin, Niel Carmichael Park and Colin Campbell Achanduin. The members present agreed by a majority of votes that no stirk or heifer shall be exhibited except those reared by the exhibitor. The meeting unanimously agreed that the premiums at the Ploughing Match shall be paid by the Secretary in cash, and the premiums awarded for cattle, horses, dairy produce and crops shall be given in implements. The successful competitors shall intimate to the Secretary before Saturday first the Articles that they prefer to get for their different prizes and the following members to meet on Monday first at Tayfuil, Mr McIntyre Salen, Mr McDougall, Mr Carmichael Achauarain, Donald McDonald Kilichiarain and Mr Colin Campbell Achanduin.

Donald McDonald [*signed*]

Subscription List for 1855

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	S	D	£	S	D
Trustees of J Cheyne Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Alexander Haig Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Donald McDonald Esqr.	-	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Connell, Bailenangoun (2 years)	18	-	3	-	-	3	-
Duncan Black (2 years)	52	-	8	-	-	8	-
Hugh Carmichael, Kilandrist	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
Malcolm McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Duncan McColl	63	-	5	-	-	5	-
Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh	25	-	2	1	-	2	1
Duncan Black	16	-	1	4	-	-	-
Dugald McColl	23	-	1	11	-	1	11
John Livingston, Bailure	34	-	2	10	-	-	-
John Carmichael	26	-	2	2	-	-	-
D & J Livingston	31	-	2	7	-	2	7
Duncan Black (2 years arrears)	35	-	5	10	-	-	-
John McGregor, Achaurain	86	-	5	-	-	-	-
Donald Carmichael	96	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald McColl	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
D & D Carmichael	32	-	2	8	-	-	-
Alexander McGregor, Tirfuir (2 years arrears)	36	-	6	-	-	-	-
Niel Carmichael, Fionnachonan	88	-	5	-	-	5	-
Alexander McCormack	70	-	5	-	-	5	-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Archibald Campbell, Creganaich	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
John McIntyre, Salen	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois	27	-	2	3	-	-	-
Donald McColl	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Hugh Buchanan	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
John McIntyre, Killean	54	-	4	6	-	4	-
Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse	22	-	1	10	-	1	10
Duncan Campbell, Creganaich	25	-	2	1	-	2	1
John McColl, Portcastle (2 years)	53	-	8	10	-	-	-
Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
Myles Black	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
Archibald Carmichael, Achanduin (3 years)	26	-	6	6	-	-	-
Duncan Black	20	-	1	8	-	1	8
Alexander McIntyre	80	-	5	-	-	5	-
Colin Campbell	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
John Carmichael	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
	-	£18	19	1	£16	12	1
Received from John McGregor since closing the account					-	5	-
From D Black, Miller					-	4	-
					£17	1	1

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Cash			
To Balance in Treasurer's hands at last settlement	2	12	11
Amount of subscription received for year 1855	17	1	1
	£19	14	0
Cash			
By Amounts of premiums awarded	16	1	0
Charges	1	18	4
Total expense	£17	19	4
1856 March 1 Balance on hand at this date	£1	14	8

By appointment we were called by the Society to examine the above accounts and found them all right.

John McIntyre, Donald McDonald
Balegrundle, 1st March 1856

*List of Premiums awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society
for year 1856*

Ploughing

1 st Prize	Dugald McGregor, Achauarain	12/-
2 nd	John McColl, Achnacrois	11/-
3 rd	Alexander Carmichael, Achauarain	10/-
4 th	Dugald Carmichael, Achanduin	9/-
5 th	Alexander McIntyre, Achanduin	7/-
6 th	Alexander Carmichael, Bailure	6/-
7 th	Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist	5/-

Sown Grass, 1st class

1 st Prize	Mr Donald McColl, Achnacrois
2 nd	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan

Sown Grass, 2nd class

1 st Prize	Revd Gregor McGregor
2 nd	Miles Black, Baileveolan

Oats, 1st class

1 st Prize	Mr John McIntyre, Salen
2 nd	John McGregor, Achauarain

Oats, 2nd class

1 st Prize	Donald McIntyre, Salen
2 nd	Duncan Black, Achanduin

Turnips, 1st class

- 1st Prize Mr John McIntyre, Salen
2nd Archibald Campbell, Creganaich

Turnips, 2nd class

- 1st Prize Duncan Campbell, Creganaich
2nd Miles Black, Baileveolan

Breeding Cows

- 1st Prize Mr Donald Carmichael, Achaurain
2nd John McIntyre, Salen
3rd Peter McDougall, Baleveolan

Dairy Cows

- 1st Prize Mr John Carmichael, Bailure
2nd Duncan Campbell, Creganaich
3rd Revd Gregor McGregor

Heifers

- 1st Prize Mr Peter McDougall, Baileveolan
2nd Archibald Campbell, Creganaich
3rd John McIntyre, Salen

Stirks, 1st class

- 1st Prize Archibald Campbell, Creganaich
2nd John McIntyre, Salen
3rd John Carmichael, Achanduin

Stirks, 2nd class

- 1st Prize John Carmichael, Bailure
2nd Donald McIntyre, Salen
3rd Connell Connell, Bailenagoun

Horses

1st Prize Mr John Buchanan, Baileveolan

2nd John Carmichael, Achanduin

3rd Niel Carmichael, Park

Subscription List for 1856

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	S	D	£	S	D
Trustees of J Cheyne Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Alexander Haig Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Donald McDonald Esqr.	-	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Connell, Bailenagoun	18	-	1	6	-	1	6
Duncan Black	52	-	4	4	-	-	-
Hugh Carmichael, Kilandrist	25	-	2	1	-	-	-
Malcolm McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Duncan McColl, Clachan	63	-	5	-	-	5	-
Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh	25	-	2	1	-	-	-
Dugald McColl	23	-	1	11	-	1	11
Duncan Black (2 years)	16	-	1	4	-	-	-
John Livingston, Bailure (2 years)	34	-	2	10	-	5	6
John Carmichael (2 years)	26	-	2	2	-	4	4
D & J Livingston	31	-	2	7	-	-	-
Duncan Black (3 years)	35	-	2	11	-	-	-
John McGregor, Achaurain	86	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	96	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald McColl	26	-	2	2	-	-	-
D & D Carmichael (2 years)	32	-	2	8	-	-	-
Niel Carmichael, Fionchrocan	88	-	5	-	-	-	-
Alexander McCormick	70	-	5	-	-	-	-
Duncan Buchanan, Dailacharra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John McIntyre, Frackersaig	70	-	5	-	-	4	6

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Archibald Campbell, Creganaich	70	-	5	-	-	5	-
John McIntyre, Salen	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois (2 years)	27	-	4	6	-	2	6
Donald McColl	45	-	3	9	-	3	6
Hugh Buchanan	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse	22	-	1	10	-	1	10
Duncan Campbell, Creganaich	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
Archibald Buchanan, Killean	42	-	3	6	-	3	6
John McColl, Portcastle (3 years)	52	-	4	4	-	4	3
Peter McDougall, Baleveolan	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
Miles Black	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
John Buchanan, Baileveolan	51	-	4	3	-	4	3
Alexander McIntyre, Achanduin	82	-	5	-	-	-	-
John Carmichael	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
Colin Campbell	41	-	3	5	-	-	-
Duncan Black	20	-	1	8	-	1	8
Amount of subscriptions received for 1856					£15	14	0
Balance on hand at last settlement					1	14	8
					£17	8	8
By Premiums and charges for 1856					18	3	0
1857 March 7 Balance due Treasurer at this date						14	4

Examined the above and found correct

Donald McDonald

John McIntyre

Subscription List for 1857

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	<i>S</i>	<i>D</i>	£	<i>S</i>	<i>D</i>
Trustees of J Cheyne Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Alexander Haigg Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donald McDonald Esqr.	-	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Connell, Bailenagoun	18	-	1	6	-	1	6
Duncan Black, miller, for 2 years	52	-	8	8	-	8	8
Hugh Carmichael, Kilandrist, 2 years	25	-	4	2	-	-	-
Archibald McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Duncan McColl, Clachan	63	-	5	-	-	-	-
Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh, 2 years	25	-	4	2	-	4	2
Dugald McColl, Post, Bailemackil- lachan	23	-	1	11	-	-	-
John Carmichael, Bailure	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
D & J Livingston, arrears of 1836	31	-	2	7	-	2	7
Duncan Black, arrears of 4 years	35	-	11	8	-	-	-
John McGregor, Achaurain	86	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	100	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald McColl, Point, arrears of 2 years	26	-	4	4	-	-	-
D & D Carmichael, arrears of 3 years	32	-	8	-	-	-	-
Alexander McCormick, arrears 5/-, sub 2/1	-	-	-	-	-	7	1
John McIntyre, Frackarsaig	70	-	5	-	-	-	-
Duncan Buchannan, Bailenagoun, arrears 2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Archibald Campbell, Creganaich	75	-	5	-	-	5	-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

John McIntyre, Salen	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois	27	-	2	3	-	2	-
Donald McColl	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Hugh Buchanan	45	-	3	9	-	3	9
Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse	22	-	1	10	-	1	10
Duncan Campbell, Creganaich	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
Archibald Buchanan, Killean	42	-	3	6	-	3	6
Hugh Black	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
John McIntyre	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
John McColl, Portcastle	52	-	4	4	-	-	-
Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	35	-	2	11	-	2	11
Miles Black	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
John Buchanan, Baileveolan	51	-	4	3	-	4	3
Alexander McIntyre, Achanduin	82	-	5	-	-	5	-
John Carmichael	41	-	3	5	-	3	5
Duncan Black	20	-	1	8	-	-	-
Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist, Fine	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
A Friend per the Secretary	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
					£14	8	8
By balance due Secretary at last settlement, and expenses					-	18	2
1857 December 26 th on Hand at this date					£12	10	6

Examined and found correct

Achnacrois 5 January 1858

Donald McDonald

John McIntyre, chairman

*List of Premiums awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society
for Year 1857*

Ploughing

1 st Prize	Alex Carmichael, Bailure	13/-	
2 nd	Dugald McGregor, Achaurain	12/-	
3 rd	Alexander Carmichael, Achaurain	11/-	
4 th	Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist	9/-	
5 th	Dugald Carmichael, Achanduin	8/-	
6 th	John McColl, Bailegarbh	7/-	
7 th	Niel Buchannan, Killichiarain	5/-	£3.5.0 paid

Crop, 1st class

1 st Prize	Donald McColl, Achnacrois	14/-	
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	12/-	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Achaurain	9/-	
4 th	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	7/-	
5 th	Duncan McColl, Clachan	5/-	

Crop, 2nd class

1 st Prize	John Carmichael, Bailure	9/-	
2 nd	Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse	8/-	
3 rd	Dugald McCallum, Bailgarbh	6/-	£3.10.0

Donald McIntyre and Myles Black Commended

Breeding Cows

1 st Prize	John McIntyre, Salen	14/-	
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Achaurain	9/-	
[3 rd]	Dugald McCallum, Bailegarbh	5/-	£1.8.0

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Heifers

1 st Prize	John McIntyre, Salen	11/-	
2 nd	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	9/-	
3 rd	Donald McIntyre, Salen	7/-	£1.7.0

Stirks, 1st class

1 st Prize	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	7/-	
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	5/-	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Achaurain	3/-	15/-

Stirks, 2nd class

1 st Prize	Donald McIntyre, Salen	5/-	
2 nd	Donald Connell, Bailenagoun	3/6	
3 rd	Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist	2/6	11/-

Bulls

1 st Prize	John McIntyre, Salen	8/-	
2 nd	Donald McColl, Achnacrois	6/6	
3 rd	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	5/6	£1

Horses

1 st Prize	John McIntyre, Salen	14/-	
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Achaurain	9/-	
3 rd	Peter McDougall, Baileveolan	5/-	£1.8.0

Subscription List for 1858

	Rent	Subscription			Paid		
	£	£	S	D	£	S	D
Mrs Cheyne	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Alexander Haigg Esqr.	-	5	-	-	5	-	-
Captain D Campbell of Baleveolan	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Angus Gregorson Esqr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donald McDonald Esqr.	-	-	5	-	-	5	-
Duncan Black, miller, for 3 years	52	-	13	-	-	-	-
Hugh Carmichael, Kileandrist, 3 years	25	-	6	3	-	-	-
Archibald McCorquodale	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
Dugald McCallum, Bailgarbh	25	-	2	1	-	2	-
John Carmichael, Bailure	26	-	2	2	-	2	2
D & J Livingston	31	-	2	7	-	-	-
John McGregor, Achuoran	86	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	100	-	5	-	-	5	-
Donald McColl, Point, arrears of 3 years	26	-	4	-	-	4	4
D & D Carmichael, for 4 years	32	-	5	-	-	5	-
Alexander McCormick, Bilegarbh	25	-	9	2	-	-	-
John McIntyre, Frackersaig, for 2 years	70	-	10	-	-	-	-
Duncan Buchanan, Bailnagoun, for 3 years	24	-	6	-	-	-	-
Archibald Campbell, Creganaich	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
John McIntyre, Salen	75	-	5	-	-	5	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrois, arrears 1 year	75	-	2	3	-	2	3
Donald McColl	45	-	3		-	3	9

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Revd Gregor McGregor, Manse	22	-	1	10	-	1	10
Duncan Campbell, Creganaich, arrears 1 year	25	-	2	1	-	-	-
Archibald Buchanan, Kilean	42	-	3	6	-	3	6
Hugh Black	17	-	1	5	-	1	5
John McIntyre	-	-	2		-	-	-
John McColl, Portcastle, for 2 years	52	-	8	8	-	-	-
Dugald McColl, Post	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Peter McDougall, Baileveolan, for 1 year	35	-	2	4	-	-	-
Miles Black	28	-	2	4	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	9	-	2	9
John Buchanan, Bailveolan	51	-	4	-	-	4	-
Alexander McIntyre, Achnadoun	82	-	5	-	-	5	-
John Carmichael	4	-	3	-	-	3	5
Duncan Black, for 2 years arrears	20	-	3	4	-	3	-
Colin Campbell, arrears	41	-	2	6	-	2	6
					£15	12	9
Retired members					-	10	-
Amount of subscription received for year 1858					£16	2	9
By balance due Secretary at last settlement					-	11	-
Charges and other expences					2	8	6
					£13	3	3
Paid ploughmen					3	-	-
1859 April 7 on hand at this date					£10	3	3

11 April Examined the above accounts and found the same correct

Donald McDonald

John McIntyre

List of Premiums Awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society for 1858

Ploughing

1 st Prize	Dugald McGregor, Achaurain	13/-
2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Achaurain	12/-
3 rd	Dugald Carmichael, Achadown	11/-
4 th	John McColl, Achnacrois	9/-
5 th	John McColl, Balimakillachan	8/-
6 th	Archibald McCorquodale, Kileandrist	7/-

Saddler's prizes	Niel Buchanan, Kilchearan	Bridle
	Dugald Carmichael, Achadown	Whip

Crops, Sown Grass, 1st class

1 st Prize	John McIntyre, Salen	11/-
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Ryegrass

2 nd	John McGregor, Achuran	7/6
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2nd class

1 st Prize	Miles Black, Bailveolan	8/-
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2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Balure	5/6
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Oats, 1st class

1 st Prize	Archibald Campbell, Craigenach	11/-
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2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	7/-
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2nd class

1 st Prize	Dugald McColl, Post	8/-
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2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Balure	6/-
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THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Turnips, 1st class

1st Prize Archibald Buchanan, Kilean 11/-

2nd Donald Carmichael, Achueran 7/-

2nd class

1st Prize Revd Gregor McGregor 8/-

2nd Donald McIntyre, Salen 6/-

Breeding Cows

1st Prize John McIntyre, Salen 14/-

2nd Donald Carmichael, Achuaran 9/-

3rd John McGregor, Achuaran 5/- £1.8.0

Heifers

1st Prize Donald Carmichael, Achuaran 11/-

2nd John McIntyre, Salen 9/-

3rd Hugh Buchanan, Achnacrois 7/- £1.7.0

1st Stirks

1st Prize John McGregor, Achuaran 7/-

2nd Duncan McColl, Clachan 5/-

3rd John McIntyre, Salen 3/- 15/-

2nd Stirks

1st Prize John McCorquodale, Kilandrist 5/- 5/-

Bulls

1st Prize Archibald Buchanan, Killean 8/-

2nd Donald Carmichael, Achuaran 6/6 14/6

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Horses

1 st Prize	Donald Carmichael, Achuoran	14/-	
2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Balure	9/-	
3 rd	Miles Black, Balevolen	5/-	£1.8.0
April 11 th Received from John McColl [retiring]			£10.13.6
Secretary			£10.3.3
Amount of funds carried forward			10/3

*List of Premiums awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society
for year 1859*

Plowing Match

1 st	Dugald Carmichael, Achinduin	13/-	
2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Achuaran	12/-	
3 rd	Duncan McColl, Auchnacroish	11/-	
4 th	Archibald McCorquodale, Kilindrist	9/-	
5 th	Dugald McGregor, Achuaran	8/-	
6 th	Niel Buchanan, Kilichiaran	7/-	£3

Sown Grass, 1st class

1 st	Archibald Buchanan, Killean	11/-	
2 nd	John Carmichael, Auchinduin	7/6	
2 nd class			
1 st	Dugald McColl, Post	8/-	
2 nd	Miles Black, Balevolan	5/6	£1.12.0

Oats, 1st class

1 st	John McIntyre, Salen	11/-	
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	7/-	

2nd class

1 st	John Carmichael, Balure	8/-	
2 nd	Donald McIntyre, Salen	6/-	£1.12.0

Turnips, 1st class

1 st	Donald Carmichael, Achuaran	11/-	
2 nd	John McGregor, Achuaran	7/-	

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

2nd class

1 st	John Carmichael, Balure	8/-	
2 nd	Dugald McColl, Post	6/-	£1.12.0

Breeding Cows

1 st	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	14/-	
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	9/-	
3 rd	Niel Carmichael, Park	5/-	£1.8.0

Heifers

1 st	John McIntyre, Salen	11/-	
2 nd	Archibald Campbell, Creganich	9/-	
3 rd	Dugald McColl, Post	7/-	£1.7.0

Stirks, 1st class

[1 st]	John McIntyre, Salen	7/-	
2 nd	Niel Carmichael, Park	5/-	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	3/-	15/-

2nd class

1 st	John McCorquodale, Kilandrist	5/-	
2 nd	Miles Black, Balevolan	3/6	8/6

Bulls

1 st	Alexander McIntyre, Auchinduin	8/-	8/-
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Horses

1 st	John McGregor, Auchuaran	14/-	
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	9/-	
3 rd	Archibald Campbell, Creganich	5/-	£1. 8.0
			<hr/> £13.10.6

Subscription List for 1859

	Rent	Paid		
	£	£	S	D
Mrs Cheyne	-	5	5	0
Mr Haige esqr.	-	5	5	0
Captain D Campbell of Balvolen	-	2	5	0
Archibald McCorquodale, Kilendrist	17	-	1	5
Dugald McCallum, Balgarve	25	-	2	-
John Carmichael, Balure	22	-	2	2
John McGregor, Achuaran	86	-	5	-
Donald Carmichael	150	-	8	-
Archibald Campbell, Creagnich	75	-	6	-
John McIntyre, Salen	200	-	8	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacroish	27	-	2	3
Duncan Black, Auchuarain	20	-	-	-
Archibald Buchanan, Kilen	42	-	3	6
Hugh Black	17	-	1	5
John McColl, Portcastle, 3 years	52	-	-	-
Dugald McColl, Post	28	-	2	4
Miles Black, Balvolen	28	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	33	-	2	4
Alexander McIntyre, Achnadown	82	-	6	-
John Carmichael	41	-	-	-
Colin Campbell	41	-	-	-
Colin Campbell	88	-	6	-
		£14	16	11
Paid to the Plowing Men		3	-	-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Therefore this year	£11	16	11
D Black, Auchinduin, arrears 2 years	-	3	-
Subscription carried forward	£11	19	11
Amount of prizes this year excluding plowing	10	10	6
Arrears due Secretary last year	-	10	3
Paid out of the funds of the Society for dinner to judges and counter	1	12	0
General expences	-	5	6
Arrears	£12	18	3
Brought forward	-	18	4

January 23rd 1860. Examined the above accounts and found the same correct.

John McIntyre
Archibald Campbell

[Blue pages from here to the end stitched in, not in order, with some pages later cut out]

*List of Premiums awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society
for Year 1860*

Plowing

1 st	Alexander Carmichael, Achuaran	13/-
2 nd	Alexander Carmichael, Balure	12/-
3 rd	Dugald McGregor, Achuaran	11/-
4 th	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadown	9/-
5 th	Duncan Carmichael, Park	8/-
6 th	Alexander McGregor, Kilichearan	7/-

Sowing Grass, 1st class

1 st	John McGregor, Achuaran	11/-
2 nd	Donald McIntyre, Salen	7/6

2nd class

1 st	Miles Black, Balevolan	8/-
2 nd	John Carmichael, Balure	6/-

Oats, 1st class

1 st	John McIntyre, Salen	11/-
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Achueran	7/-

2nd class

1 st	Revd Gregor McGregor	8/-
2 nd	Dugald McColl, Post	6/-

Turnips, 1st class

1 st	Archibald Campbell, Creagnich	11/-
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Achuarain	7/-

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

2nd class

1 st	John Carmichael, Balure	8/-
2 nd	Miles Black, Balvolen	6/-

Breeding Cows

1 st	Donald Carmichael, Achuaran	14/-
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	9/-
3 rd	Archibald Campbell, Creagnich	5/-

Hiefer

1 st	Niel Carmichael, Park	11/-
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Achuaran	9/-
3 rd	Archibald Campbell, Creganich	7/-

Stirks, 1st class

1 st	Niel Carmichael, Park	7/-
2 nd	Archibald Buchanan, Killen	5/-
3 rd	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadown	3/-

2nd [class]

1 st	Miles Black, Balveolan	5/-
2 nd	John Carmichael, Balure	3/6
3 rd	John McCorquodale, Kileandrist	2/6

Bulls

1 st	Mr Stewart, Kilcheran	8/-
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	6/6

Horses

Subscription List for 1860

	£	S	D
Mrs Cheyne	5	-	-
Alex Haig Esqr.	5	-	-
Captain D Campbell, Balevolen	2	-	-
Mr Stewart, Kilchieran	-	8	-
Archibald McCorquodale, Kilandrist	-	1	5
John Carmichael, Balure	-	2	2
John McGregor, Achuarain	-	6	-
Donald Carmichael, Achuarain	-	8	-
Donald McColl, Point	-	2	-
Niel Carmichael, Park	-	6	-
Archibald Campbell, Creagnich	-	6	-
John McIntyre, Salen	-	8	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrosh	-	2	3
Hugh Black, Kilen Brought forward	-	-	-
Archibald Buchanan	-	3	6
Dugald McColl, Post	-	2	4
Miles Black, Balevolan	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	-	5	-
Revd Gregor McGregor	-	1	10
Alexander McIntyre, Achindown	-	6	-
	£15	10	10
Arrears brought forward		18	4
Settled	£14	12	6

*List of Premiums awarded by the Lismore Agricultural Society
for the Year 1861*

Plowing Match

1 st	Alexander Carmichael, Achuoran	7/6
2 nd	Hugh McGregor, Achuoran	6/6
3 rd	Hugh Buchanan, Kilen	5/-
4 th	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadowan	4/6
5 th	John Black, Balevolan	3/6
6 th	Duncan Carmichael, Park	3/-

Sowing Grass, 1st class

1 st	Donald Carmichael, Achuoran	7/6
2 nd	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadowan	5/6

2nd class

1 st	Revd Gregor McGregor	5/-
2 nd	John Carmichael, Balure	3/-

Oats, 1st class

1 st	John McIntyre, Salen	7/6
2 nd	Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	5/6

2nd class

1 st	Revd Gregor McGregor	5/-
2 nd	Hugh Black, Kilen	3/-

Turnips, 1st class

1 st	Mr Stewart, Kilicheran	7/6
2 nd	John McGregor, Achuoran	5/6

2nd class

1 st	Dugald McColl, Post	5/-
2 nd	Melse Black, Balevolan	3/-

Breeding Cows

1 st	John McIntyre, Salen	7/6
2 nd	John McGregor, Achuaran	5/6
3 rd	Alexander McIntyre, Achindoun	4/-
4 th	Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	[blank]

Heffer

1 st	Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	7/6
2 nd	Niel Carmichael, Park	5/6
3 rd	Miles Black, Balevolan	4/-
4 th	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadoun	[blank]

Stirks, 1st class

1 st	Archibald Buchanan, Kilen	3/6
2 nd	Alexander McIntyre, Achnadoun	3/-
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Achuoran	2/-
4 th	John McGregor, Achuoran	[blank]

2nd class

1 st	John Carmichael, Balure	2/6
2 nd	Dugald McColl, Post	2/-

Bulls

1 st	Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	4/6
2 nd	John McGregor, Achuoran	2/6
3 rd	Hugh Black, Killen	2/-

Horses

1 st	Donald Carmichael, Achuoran	7/6
2 nd	John McIntyre, Salen	5/6
3 rd	Mr Stewart, Kilcheran	4/-
4 th	Niel Carmichael, Park	[<i>blank</i>]
5 th	Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	[<i>blank</i>]

Subscription List for the Year 1861

	Rent	Paid		
	£	£	S	D
Mrs Cheyne	-	2	10	0
Mr Haig Esqr.	-	5	-	-
Mr Stewart, Kilcheran	[500]	-	14	-
Archibald McCorquodale, Kilendrist	17	-	1	5
John Carmichael, Balure	26	-	2	2
John McGregor, Achuaran	112	-	7	-
Donald Carmichael	152	-	8	-
Donald McColl, Point	26	-	2	2
Niel Carmichael, Park	88	-	6	-
Archibald Campbell, Tirlagan	84	-	6	-
John McIntyre, Sallen	200	-	8	-
Archibald Campbell, Achnacrosh	26	-	2	2
Hugh Black, Killen (1/5 brought forward)	17	-	2	10
Archibald Buchanan, Killen	42	-	3	6
Dugald McColl, Post	28	-	2	4
Melse Black, Balevolan	28	-	2	4
Donald McIntyre, Salen	65	-	-	-
Revd Gregor McGregor	20	-	1	10
Alexander McIntyre, Achnadoun	84	-	6	-
Mr John McIntyre, Kingerloch	-	1	-	-
Total		£11	5	9
Arrears due the Secretary from last year		1	6	0
Arrears due ditto for year 1861		1	3	0

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Expenses treating the judges of crops etc		-	10	6
Postage stamps		-	-	3
		£2	19	9
		£8	6	0
Paid to the saddler 5 September 1862		8	-	-
Settled		-	6	0

Subscription List for the Year 1862

	£	S	D
Mrs Cheyne of Killichian	2	-	-
Mr Haig	5	-	-
A McCorquodale, Killandrist	-	2	6
John Carmichael, Balure	-	2	6
John McGregor, Auchuaran	-	8	5
Donald McColl, Point	-	2	6
Neil Carmichael, Park	-	7	4
Archibald Campbell, Tirlaggan	-	7	0
John McIntyre, Baligrundle	-	10	0
Archibald Campbell, Auchnacrois	-	2	6
Archibald Buchanan, Killeen	-	3	6
John McColl, Post	-	2	6
Miles Black, Baileveolan	-	2	6
Donald McIntyre, Salen (2 years)	-	10	6
Rev. G McGregor	-	2	6
Alexander McIntyre, Auchnadin	-	7	0
Gilbert McDonald, Frackersaig	-	3	0
Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	-	10	0
Total	£11	4	6

Plowing Match 1862 at Park Farm

1 st	John McCorquodale, Fracarsaig	7/6	
2 nd	Hugh McGregor, Auchuaran	6/6	
3 rd	Gilbert Buchanan, Killean	5/-	
4 th	Duncan Carmichael, Park	4/6	
5 th	Duncan Carmichael, Auchuaran	3/6	
6 th	Alexander McGregor, Kilichiaran	3/-	£1.10.0

Sowing Grass

1 st	Archibald Buchanan, Killean	7/6	
2 nd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	5/6	
3 rd	Milis Black, Baileveolan	5/-	18/-

Oats

1 st	Niel Carmichael, Park	7/6	
2 nd	Archibald Campbell, Tirlaggan	5/6	
3 rd	John McGregor, Auchuaran	5/-	18/-

Turnips

1 st	J H J Stewart, Killichieran	[blank]	
2 nd	John Carmichael, Balure	5/6	
3 rd	John McCorquodale, Killandrist	5/-	

Breeding Cows

1 st	John McIntyre, Bailegrundle	7/6	
2 nd	Niel Buchanan, Killean	5/6	
3 rd	Alexander McIntyre, Auchnadoun	4/6	17/6

THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE LISMORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY 1853–1868

Heiffers

1 st	John McIntyre, Bailegrundle	7/6	
2 nd	John McGregor, Auchuaran	5/6	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	4/-	17/-

Stirks

1 st	Alexander McIntyre, Auchindoun	3/6	
2 nd	Archibald Buchanan, Killean	3/-	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	2/6	
4 th	John McIntyre, Bailegrundle	2/-	11/-

Horses

1 st	Donald McIntyre, Salen	7/6	
2 nd	John McIntyre, Bailegrundle	5/6	
3 rd	Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	4/-	17/-

Ploughing Match 1863 at Bailegrundle

1 st	Alexander Carmichael, Auchuaurain	7/-	
2 nd	Niel Buchanan, Auchnacroish	6/-	
3 rd	Hugh McGregor, Auchuarain	4/6	
4 th	John Black, Baileveolan	4/-	
5 th	Duncan Carmichael, Park	3/-	
6 th	Hugh Buchanan, Killean	2/6	£1.7.0

Settlement of all previous prizes made at this date, 11th February 1867.

Balance in hand	8/-
Arrears due off A Campbell, Tirlaggan	6/6
Due off Mr D Carmichael, Treasurer	14/6

Subscription List for 1867

[rest of the list omitted]

John McIntyre, Baligrundle	paid	10/-
Dugald McIntyre, Cloichlea	paid	10/-
Mr Smith, Salen	paid	10/-

Achnacroish 5th February 1868

The Comitee [*sic*] of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs Donald Carmichael [Auchuarain], John Black Balevolan, Archibald Campbell Tirlaggan, Alexander Carmichael Balure, Dugald McIntyre Clachlea and John McIntyre Baligrundle in the chair.

The comitee considered a letter received by the treasurer from Mr Alexander Buchan Balveolan tendering his resignation from being a member of committee, also that his father John Buchan Balevolan wishes to discontinue being a member of the Society. The comitee refused both applications on the grounds that notice ought to be given at the [. . .] General Meeting. The Comitee agreed to have their plowing match this year on Thursday 26th current, a deputation of the comitee to select the best and suitable place for the plowing and report upon the same. Messrs Smith Ardtur, John McInnes Auchnaba and William Alison Ardnaclach, Appin, are appointed judges and their decision to be final. Rules of plowing as follows. The slice to be no less than six inches deep [in back and point], straight, firm and well finished. The subscription to be the same as last year.

John McIntyre, Chairman [*signed*]

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Names of Farmers Competing at Ploughing Match

[no date given]

	Ploughman's name [if not owner]
1. Donald McIntyre, Salen	Duncan McIntyre, Killean
2. Duncan Carmichael, Killandrist	his son
3. Archy Campbell, Tirlaggan	Hugh Black
4. Lachlan Smith, Salen	
5. Archy McCorquodale, Killandrist	
6. John Black, Baileveolan	
7. Hugh Buchanan, Killean	
8. Alexander Carmichael, Balure	
9. Dugald McGregor, Auchuaran	
10. Dugald Livingston, Balure	
11. John Livingston, Bailimackilichan	
12. Neil Carmichael, Park	his son
13. Hugh McGregor, Auchuaran	
14. John McIntyre, Baligrundle	Angus McDonald
15. John McColl, Post	his brother Alexander
16. Donald Carmichael, Auchuaran	his brother Alexander

Successful competitors

- 1st Alexander Carmichael, Auchuaran
- 2nd Alexander McColl, Bailimakilichan
- 3rd Hugh Buchanan, Killean
- 4th Alexander Carmichael, Balure
- 5th Dugald Livingston, Balure
- 6th Dugald McGregor, Auchuaran

Commended John Black, Baileveolan, Mr Smith, Salen

[No Title]

1st The show is [to] consist of two classes. Tennants [*sic*] paying £40 pounds of rent and upwards to rank in Class 1st and tennants paying under £40 of rent to rank in Class 2nd, but any tennant ranking in Class 2nd are at liberty to rank in Class 1st by paying the same rate of entry money, and

2nd Competitors in Class 1st will show one cow with calf at foot, two two year old heiffers [*sic*], and two quey stirks and the whole of the stock shown by each exhibitor must be their own property at time of entry, and from the 12th of May last.

3rd Competitors in Class 2nd will show one cow with calf at foot, one two year old heifer and one quey stirk. Cows must be the property of the exhibitor from the 12th of May last and at date of entry. Heiffers and stirks must be of their own breeding and their own property at the date of entry.

4th Bulls of both classes will compete together and must serve in the island at least one season and must be the property of the exhibitor at date of entry.

5th Breeding mares of both classes will compete together and each mare must have a foal at foot and must be the property of the exhibitor at date of entry.

6th Mares without foal and horses of both classes will compete [...] Horses and mares without foals of both classes will compete together.

At Auchnacroish 4th February 1867

The Comitee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs Donald Carmichael, Archibald Campbell, John Black and John McIntyre. John McIntyre in the chair. The accounts of the Treasurer were examined and the amount in [fund] found to be £7.19.2. After that the comitee was dissolved and a new comitee constituted, *viz.*

Angus Gregorson, President
Donald Carmichael, Secretary
John McIntyre, Chairman
Alexander Buchanan
John Black
Archibald Campbell
Dugald McGregor
John McColl, Post
Alexander Carmichael
Dugald McIntyre, Treasurer
Lachlan Smith

The Comitee then took into consideration that immediate steps will be taken to settle all arrears due of the former comitee in the shape of prizes, also to uplift all subscriptions in arrears and appoint a meeting on the 13th instant for the purpose of a settlement at Auchnacroish at 3 o'clock afternoon.

The Comitee then agreed that the subscription for this year be as follows. Tennants paying £50 of rent and under to pay 5/- yearly and above that rent 10/- yearly and to compete in two classes at the cattleshow, the former to show one cow, one heifer, one stirk and one horse, and the latter to show one cow, two heifers, two stirks and one horse, both classes to compete together for horses.

[Horses not to compete] but to be considered by the comitee at future meetings.

The Comitee then agreed that Bulls should be substituted in room of the horses and that the prizes should be given and the class to include both classes.

The Comitee then settled all prizes etc. due the competitors and find the new comitee clear of all previous debts with a little surplus in the hands of the treasurer.

The Comitee agreed that Dugald McIntyre Clachlea shall for the coming year be appointed Treasurer and Mr Smith Salen Secretary for his [intromissions]. The comitee agreed that the Plowing Match shall take place at Salen, Mr Smith, on the 20th instant. Rules of plowing to be as follows: 6 inches by 9 in the slice, straight and firm with a good [finish]. Judges appointed Messrs [*illegible*].

John McIntyre [*signed*]

At Auchnacroish, Lismore 30th June 1862

The Committee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met, present Messrs Donald Carmichael Auchuaran, Archibald Campbell Tirlaggan, and John McIntyre Balegrundle. John McIntyre in the chair. The Committee appointed Messrs Alexander McIntyre Auchinduin, Archibald Campbell Tirlaggan and Niel Carmichael Park to judge the sown grass and growing crops, the judging of the sown grass to take place on Monday the 7th of July and the judging of crops on Wednesday 13th of August and the cattle show will take place at Auchnacroish on Friday the 15th August, judges those gentlemen of last year namely Messrs Donald Sinclair Aucharur, Duncan McCallum Kilmonivaig and Duncan Sinclair Strontoiller and their decision to be final.

John McIntyre, Chairman [*signed*]

At Auchnacroish March 17th 1862

The Comitee of the Lismore Agricultural Society met. In the first place the present comitee was dissolved and an election began to form a new comitee to act for the present year and the following gentlemen being clearly elected, *viz.*

Angus Gregorson Esqr., Oban, President
John McIntyre, Salen, Chairman
Gilbert McDonald, Fracarsaig
Archibald Campbell, Tirlaggan
Alexander McIntyre, Auchinduin
Neil Carmichael, Park
John Black, Balevolan

The Comitee fixed the subscription for this year to be in no instance less than 2/6, all subscribers paying £30 rent and upwards one penny in the pound until the amount comes to 10/- which is the highest charge for any subscriber. The comitee also agreed to do away with the former test regarding bought cattle, which may be shown now without exception. The comitee also agreed to have only one class of competitors for crop and cattle and the extent of ground to be shown is reduced *viz.* 1.5 acres of oats, 1 acre of sown grass and half acre of turnips. The Comitee fixed the plowing match to take place on the farm of Park on the 21st instant and appointed Messrs Alexander Carmichael Achuaran, Duncan Black Barcaldine and Alexander Carmichael Balure judges and their decision to be final. All horses and plowmen is [*sic*] requested to appear on the ground at or about nine o'clock AM. Operations to commence as soon as possible thereafter.

John McIntyre, Chairman [*signed*]

Dinner 1861

John McIntyre, Salen	paid	5/-
Alexander McIntyre, Achadun		5/-
Niel Carmichael, Park		5/-
John McGregor, Achuaran		5/-
John Black, Balevolan		5/-
John McColl, Post		5/-
Hugh Black, Killean		5/-
Archibald Campbell, Creganich		5/-
Donald Carmichael, Auchuran		5/-
		<hr/>
		£2.5.0

FURTHER READING

The original minute book can be consulted at the Lismore Museum, where it forms part of a collection of objects, photographs and other documents that tells the story of the island and its people.

The essential historical context for the minute book is provided by Robert Hay's *How an Island Lost its People. Improvement, Clearance and Resettlement on Lismore, 1830-1914*, Isle of Lewis, 2013. Among his other works about Lismore, which includes *Lismore: 'The Great Garden'*, Edinburgh, 2009, see in particular: Improvement not Clearance: a factor's instructions to his ground officers on the Isle of Lismore, 1831-46, *Review of Scottish Culture*, 22 (2010), 99-119; Keeping the peace on Lismore, *Historic Argyll: Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society*, 17 (2012), 37-48; and, Rev. Gregor MacGregor (1797-1885) – his life as minister of the parish of Lismore and Appin (1836-1885), *Historic Argyll: Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society*, 19 (2014), 29-43.

The regional background to the changes on Lismore can be found in McGeachy, R.A. *Argyll, 1730-1850: Commerce, Community and Culture*, Edinburgh, 2005. For a Scotland-wide view, see Devine, T.M. *Clearance and Improvement: Land, Power and People in Scotland, 1700-1900*, Edinburgh, 2006.

Fenton, A and Veitch, K, eds. *Scottish Life and Society. A Compendium of Scottish Ethnology, vol. 2: Farming and the Land*, Edinburgh, 2011, provides the

wider context for the changes that took place on Lismore. See in particular: Dodgshon, R A. Highland towns before the Clearances, 111-32; Bangor-Jones, M. Settlement, society and field systems in the Improvement era, 133-52; and Hay, R K M. Crops and livestock in the Improvement era, 244-66. See also Fenton, A. *Scottish Country Life*, Edinburgh, 1971; and Hay, R K M. Bere barley: rediscovering a Scottish staple, *Review of Scottish Culture*, 24 (2012), 126-39.

For the spread of agricultural societies in Scotland, see Boud, R C. Scottish agricultural improvement societies, 1723-1835, *Review of Scottish Culture*, 1 (1984), 70-90; Holmes, H. The dissemination of agricultural knowledge, 1700-1850, in Fenton and Veitch, 2011, 867-93; and Smout, T C. A new look at the Scottish Improvers, *Scottish Historical Review*, 91 (2012), 125-49.

For contemporary surveys of agriculture on Lismore and in neighbouring districts as it changed across the nineteenth century, see MacDonald, J. *General View of the Agriculture of the Hebrides or Western Isles of Scotland*, Edinburgh, 1811; Smith, J. *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Argyll*, London, 1813; *The New Statistical Account*, 15 vols, Edinburgh, 1845, VII, County of Argyle; and Clerk, D. On the agriculture of the County of Argyll, *Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*, 4th series, 10 (1878), 1-105.

Details about many of the people mentioned in the Minute Book can be found in the Census Returns from 1841 to 1881 (accessible online at <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>).