

Highlanders who are anxious to improve their condition. Nothing but emigration will ever relieve the chronic poverty and misery that obtain in these places. I trust you will kindly press on the Government the urgent need there is that they should help these poor people to emigrate. I have got the names of several families already who have given in their names to me as most anxious to go, but I need not send them at present, because, if Government give the needed help, many more are waiting to come forward with the same object.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN McLEAN.

No. 3.

Rev. JOHN McLEAN to Mr. FRASER MACKINTOSH, M.P.
F. C. Manse, Tarbert Harris,
February 25, 1887.

MY DEAR SIR,

I HEREWITH send you a list of heads of families with their families, and others, who are very anxious that Government should help them to emigrate. The numbers, containing small and great, amount to 397. The most of the heads of families have bits of land, but others have none. The crofters among them have a few beasts, which I hope the different proprietors will take off their hands at valuation. The most of the names are from South Harris.

Lady Scott declined sending emigrants to Manitoba this year, as she did last year, but she agreed to help if the Government would also do so.

If the Government come forward with a liberal scheme of emigration a great many more of the Harris people will gladly embrace the opportunity of getting away. For several years back the people have been suffering from the partial or total loss of their potato and other crops. Five years ago large sums came from the Lord Mayor of London and other quarters, to buy seed to put into the ground, and I believe the people quite as needful of similar help this year, whether it will be forthcoming or not. If not, the most of the crops will be fallow. I trust Lady Scott will, as usual, supply her own crofters with seed, but the South Harris people are under the management of trustees who are not so likely to help.

There is a great deal of poverty and want among our people that is truly painful to witness. There is not a week but I have to relieve people to save them from actual starvation. I wonder if any help could be got among wealthy and charitable people in the great Metropolis; even 20% would be a little help.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN McLEAN.