

descendents of the independent baron or tenant of the Crown, so also the subtenants were, for the most part, connected by ties of blood with the tacksmen. All the capital and most of the secondary possessions, and all the offices or places in the estate, from the factor or land-steward, down to the ground-officer and game-keeper, were in the hands of men who boasted of the same name and the same descent with the chief. Such, in general, was the state of society, and such the mode in which landed estates were parcelled out, under the seigneur, in feudal and warlike times ; when men of family had not the same resources in manufactures and trade that they have now ; and which, if they had enjoyed, they would have despised.

Let it not therefore seem any ways incredible, to those who are educated in a commercial age, that Serjeant Donald Macleod, the subject of this Narrative, is the son of John Macleod the son of Roderic Macleod, Esq; of Ulinish, by his wife Margaret Macleod, daughter to Macleod of Taliskar, in the parish of Bracadill in Skye, and county of Inverness, North Britain.