

Shu farms 8 1783 -

D.G. and Mackenzie , Delvine.

Time of dearth.

June 1783.

--" I am exceedingly sorry for the dismal state of your country for want of vitual and its an unfortunate circumstance that the price has now risen and that too by being ordered from this place immediately, when by a more timeous notice we might have saved a considerable part of the price by ordering it from the country when it is cheaper.

(MacKenzie.)

D. G. already on the 4th March ----- " I am greatly distressed to get the people on the estate of Skelbo supplied with vitual for their support and seeding the ground, from the failure of the crop in the highland parts their demand began so early as November and have done my best to provide for them hitherto and have some reserve for seed, the nothing equal to what will be required of bear, but the reserve for their maintainance is almost at an end numbers on the coast are now become nearly in the same distress with the highlanders, their stock being now exhausted No vitual can be had from the neighbouring counties and no relief to be procured form the south, I never witnessed so much distress and scarcity. We have been some time been kept in expectation of cargoes being brought from the south, but have now no hope of any but what may come by Col. Sutherland, and when it arrives I forsee the demand upon hime for the estate of Sutherland to be so much that he can have but little for any other. This puts me under the necessity of applying to you for two hundred bolls for the Skelbo tennants, to be sent with the first ship that comes with Col. Sutherland -----

-- vitual must be given to some to keep them in life of which there will be little or no chance of pay and I hope it will be reasonable to my constituents the Court of session thta in such an uncommon scarcity I could not be subjected to such hazards; and that the money for the purchase requires be advance dby the creditors stock.

Reply. Mackenzie .
15 March 1783.

----- From what you state of the scarcity of vitual my advice to you would be to order a cargo from Leith for yourself and such of you neighbours as you wish to serve, no oatmeal can be got but pease, rye or barley meal is plenty from 15/- % B. or the white pease grain about 19/-6 which would be still cheaper as a boll of pease would

produce about ~~20~~ 24 necks when grinded down. -- Bear
seed is ill to be got here as early as generall used. --

21 April

D.G.

-- I am well pleased to hear that there is a vessel on her
way from Leith with German bear

barley or bear was also sent form Leith

ITEMS FROM D.G.'s DAY BOOK.

	£.s.d.
I775. Fox ears	5.
I776. Taylor & Skinners survey of the roads.....	10. 6. ?
I774. William Munro. Rhives. I. pr. cart wheels frm London.	14. 14 .
I774. Rent of Kilmote.....	39. 10. 2
I776. A sow from Dunrobin.....	9.
I778-9. Window duty. Dunrobin House.....	4. 15.
I778. Two half-guineas sent to have their ballance ascertained.	I. I
I777. Rent of Wester Helmsdale for Miss Baby Gray.	
I777 a pipe of port from Portsoy.	8. 16.
Carr. frm Brora.	I. 6
I777 Two oxen frm. Dunrobin for carting.	II. II.
I777 acc. for wheelbarrow wheels for roads.	
" Anker gin.	I. 18.
I779. Polson of Gartymore an ox.	3. . .
" A pipe of port. <i>14 doz</i>	8. 2. 6.
4 doz due. . . <i>17 1/2 doz</i>	2. 6. 2.
I779 I23 leg of beef @ 3 1/2 d lb.	I. 14.
Ox.	2. 10.
I781. I Anker brandy } I Rhum, I Gin, } 2lbs tea.	8. 2. 6.
" 2lbs Congo.) 3lbs Susong)	3. 3.
" Tea & sugar	3. 10.
Tea. Clunes.	5. 19.
I771. Two riding horses from Kilmote.	12. . .
Snuff for the servants of Lothbeg.	9. 6

		£	s	d
June I78I	.. Small for Mr Duncan Dornoch		3.	6
	Spent at Barr's Fair.		5.	6.
	To Don. Bruce, 5lbs English tallow		1.	6.
	Spent at merchat.		2.	9.
	Jane Sutherland Housemaid, fees from Mart. I780 to Whit. I78I.		6.	6.
I782	Spent at inn at Dunbeath.		2.	6.
	Bruce, cowheard for shoes 2/- fees I/-		3.	6.
	Jean Sutherland Housemaid for shoes.....		3.	
	To woman for 5 months spinning wool.....		8.	6.
	in the house.			
	To Collin Buy's Dau. for a year's fees as servant in the house.		13.	6
	Spent at Dornoch 2/6 Tobacco I/-		3.	6
	Lost at cards.		3.	
	To Geo. Macph: Weaver, Golspie forweaving 22 yds of (blk?) satin made in the house.		1.	11.
	To the Dyster at Brora for dying (9 yds blk satin?)		5.	
	For getting my watch mended		6.	6
I883	For two years garden seeds			
	For soling my Edinburgh boots		3.	6
	For an anker of porter		15.	6.

25 Oct. 1780. Mr Skewee for two carpet dies - 3/6
27 - Cards at Dunbarton - 2/-

Nov. 1780. Alex. M^r. Innes wages. £5-

Donald Grant for weaving 19 pds of
carpet £-16-10-

Nov. Hugh Fetherston - Slides - 0 4 - 0
: to Robert Kennedy 1781 -

Dec. Hugh Fetherston in wages - 9 - 0 - 0

Dec 2 - Mr Sutherland at Perth -
30 pence draft to Mrs -

Mrs Edie Annaly - at Perth 1780 5 - 0 - 0

James Taitan to Willie - 5 - 0 - 0

Fetherston - & already he

paid for a piece of & he

spent at Perth -

~~What subject~~

Robert Gordon and MacKay, promising to reveal all he knew if they would procure him his liberty. The next day he was brought before the Council and testified that the Earl of Caithness had made his brother burn the cornstacks. Alexander Gunn, his cousin was examined at the same time and gave an account which agreed with his cousins in every particular. But though neither John Gunn nor Alexander were guilty, they were both returned to prison after the examination.

Sum 10th have

As the Earl of Caithness still did not deliver up Alexander Gunn, he and Lord Berridale were declared rebels. and outlawed; Earl George and his sons were charged and summoned by Lord Forbes to appear personally before the justice in Edinburgh in the month of July to answer the charge of causing the corn at Sandset to be burnt. Lord Berridale then made another effort to become reconciled with Lord Forbes on his own terms. Sir Robert Gordon had left Edinburgh taking with him MacKay, who was presented

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