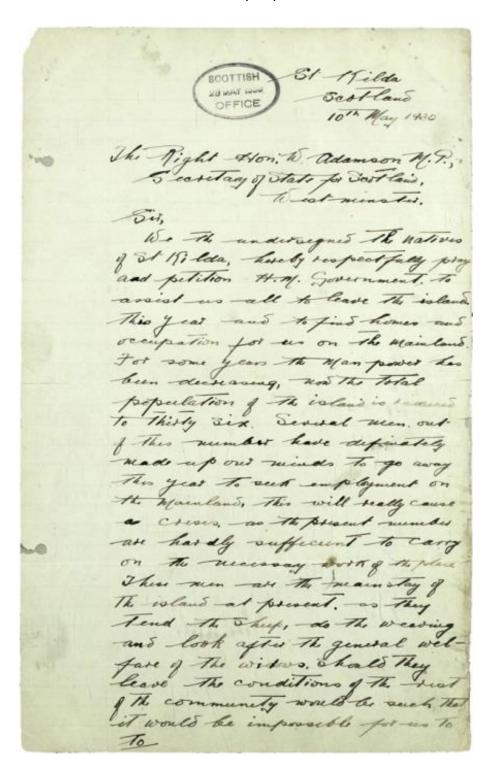


## Petition to Secretary of State for Scotland signed by the islanders of St Kilda requesting government assistance to leave the island, 10 May 1930

National Records of Scotland, Agriculture and Fisheries files, AF57/26/3





[Date Stamp: Scottish Office 29 May 1930]

St Kilda Scotland 10 May 1930

The Right Hon. W. Adamson M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, Westminster,

Sir,

We the undersigned the natives of St Kilda, hereby respectfully pray and petition H.M. Government to assist us all to leave the island this year and to find homes and occupation for us on the mainland. For some years the man power has been decreasing, now the total population of the island is reduced to thirty six. Several men out of this number have definitely made up our minds to go away this year to such employment on the mainland. This will really cause a crisis as the present number are hardly sufficient to carry on the necessary work of the place These men are the mainstay of the island at present, as they tend the sheep, do the weaving and look after the general welfare of the widows. Should they leave the conditions of the rest of the community would be such that it would be impossible for us to /to



remain on The waland another Winter. The reason why assistance is necessary is, that for many years Saint Kilda has not bun sel supporting, and with no facilities to delles our positition, we are there fore without the means to pay for the costs of semoving owners and furniture elsewhere. cettles together - as a separate community, but in meantime we walk collections be very grate. ful of assistance, and Transfer ence elsewhere, where there would be a better opportunity of securing our livlihood yours Respectfully. Lachlan Me Donald holb Linlay Machinnon hor - Donald & Mc Kinnon hos Norman M' linnon Sen Hot Tinkey Wish Gillies hot Finlay start Machinen ho 2 Ewen Ma Donald how · noce to fundo hace sould how ! Meil Ferguson fun hos. Neil Ferguson Les.



remain on the island another winter.

The reason why assistance is necessary is, that for many years Saint Kilda has not been self supporting, and with no facilities to better our position, we are therefore without the means to pay for the costs of removing ourselves and furniture elsewhere.

We do not ask to be settled together as a separate community, but in the meantime we would collectively be very grateful of assistance, and transference elsewhere, where there would be a better opportunity of securing our livelihood.

We are Sir

Yours Respectfully,

Lachlan McDonald	no16
Finlay Mackinnon	no 1
Donald E McKinnon	no 1
Norman McKinnon Sen	no 1
Norman McKinnon Jun	no 1
Finlay His mark Gillies	no 7
Finaly His mark MacQueen	no 2
Donald Gillies	no 13
Ewen McDonald	no 16
John R MacDonald	no 9
Neil Ferguson Jun	no 8
Neil Ferguson	no 5



Word Christina Mc Luce No 11 / Wed annie & Gillier sen no 18 1 Wed annie & Gillier no 14 1 AF 57/26 Trem A)



Wid Christina McQueen	no 11
Wid Annie J. Gillies sen	no 18
Wid Annie D. Gillies	no 14
Mrs Rachel Ann Gillies	no 14
Mrs Rachel MacDonald	16
Mrs Wid N Gillies	no 7
Mrs Wid Ewen Gillies	no 12
Mary Ann Gillies	no 12

We the undersigned testify that the foregoing statement is correct.

Signed
Doug. Munro (Missionary)
Williamina M. Barclay (Queen's Nurse)