

Ship *Economy* of Aberdeen Tobermory to Nova Scotia, 1819

by
Eugene Quigley, John Livingstone & Keith Dash

Economy left Tobermory on 4th August 1819 with 285 passengers on board and arrived at Pictou, Nova Scotia, on 4th October with all passengers “in good health and spirits, together with four children born upon the passage”. No shipping list has been found, but it is known that *Economy* carried passengers from Tiree, Coll, Colonsay, and probably elsewhere in the Highlands and Western Isles. Some of the passengers from Tiree or Coll were identified by Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair (in *The Clan Gillean*, 1899), Betty MacDougall (in [The Coll Magazine, 1993](#)) or Nicholas Maclean-Bristol (in *From Clan to Regiment*, 2007), and are listed in the table below. Passengers from Colonsay were identified by John Livingstone. The table notes are based on information provided by the above authors and the indexes of entries in the [Coll Parish Register 1766-1855](#) or the Genealogy Section of the former Isle of Colonsay website.

Surname	Forename	Age	From	Notes
Maclean	John	32	Tiree (Caolas)	Gaelic Poet; bard to Maclean of Coll and known as Bard Maclean
Black	Isabel			Wife, m. 19 Jul 1808, Glasgow
Maclean	Christy	9		bap. 26 Dec 1809
Maclean	Charles	6		b. 07 Jul 1813
Maclean	Archibald	4		b. 11 May 1815
A further 3 children (John, Allan & Elizabeth) were born in Canada.				
MacKenzie	Archibald	21	Coll	Son of Neil MacKenzie, farmer
MacKinnon	John		Coll (Grishipoll)	
McLean	Isobel			Wife, m. 16 Jan 1816
MacKinnon	Hector	2		bap. 08 Mar 1817
MacKinnon	Margaret	Inf.		b. 1819
Johnston*	Lachlan	35	Coll (Grishipoll)	Son of Duncan Johnston & Mary McDonald, bap. 15 Dec 1784
MacKinnon	Marion			Wife, m. 01 Mar 1814 ; sister of John MacKinnon (above)
with two children and a third born two days after sailing.				
Johnston	Duncan		Coll (Grishipoll)	Father of Lachlan Johnston (above)
with his family, including sons Lachlan (b.1784) & Roderick (b.1794).				
Johnston	Donald		Coll (Arinagour)	Brother of Duncan Johnston (above)
with his family, including son Hector (b.1791).				
Kennedy			Coll	A “violent man” who mocked the “godly ways” of those from Colonsay
Amos	Malcolm	30	Colonsay	
Gillis	Ellen			Wife, m. 09 Feb 1806
Amos	Joseph	8		bap. 11 Oct 1812
Amos	Robert	4		
Amos	Margaret	3		
Amos	Flora	1		
Currie	John	21	Colonsay	
MacCannell	Duncan	27	Colonsay	
McNeil	Donald	32	Colonsay	
Shaw	Neil	31	Colonsay	

* The ‘proper’ spelling of the Johnston/Johnson surname is contentious among descendants of the Collach families. Betty MacDougall (1993) explained it thus: *When Lachlan Johnston bought his farm [in Canada], his name was wrongly spelled on the deed, without the ‘t’. It was easier to change the name than the deed and so it remained although some descendants did revert to the Johnston spelling*

It is believed that among the passengers on *Economy* was the MacDonald family of Tiree described in Dr Hugh Macdonald’s booklet *Macdonald and Mackinnon Families (A Biographical Sketch)* published privately in 1937 and re-published in 2010 by Eugene Quigley for select distribution. [Click here.](#)