

NAME: McDONALD, John PARISH: Uig, Isle of Lewis ENTERED SERVICE: 1815

DATES: b. ca. 1790

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*:	Position:	Post:	District:	HBCA Reference:
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
1815-1816	Labourer	Oxford House		A.30/15, fo.40d-41
1816-1818	Labourer	[Unknown]		A.16/36, fo.148d-149
1818-1819	Assistant Trader	Merry's House	Island Lake	A.30/16, fo.20d-21
1819-1820	[Assistant Trader]	Merry's House	Island Lake	A.16/38, fo.72d-73
1821-1822	Trader	Merry's House	Island Lake	B.125/d/4, fo.10d
1822-1823	Trader	[Merry's House]	Island Lake	A.34/1, fo.40; B.239/g/62
1823	Retired to Red River			A.34/1, fo.40; B.239/g/62

Notes:

Two sources (A.16/36 & 38) give his place of origin as Timisgary, Lewis.
His age, as recorded while in employ of HBC and while at Red River, indicates a birth year of 1790 or 1791.
One record, however, describes him as 20 in 1815/1816. (A.30/15, fo. 40d.)

Descriptions:

1815/1816 - "5'7". Red Hair, fair [complexion]. A very promising young man"	A.30/15, fo.41
1821 - Described by Nicholas Garry as "Good Trader - active- steady".	E.11/2, fo.70
1822 - "Formerly Labourer advanced thro favour Stupid & indolent"	A.34/1, fo.40
1823 - "Neither good Clerk nor Trader no Employment for him Colony"	A.34/1, fo.40

Family information:

See page 2

Filename: M'Donald, John (b. ca. 1790) (fl. 1815-1823) AM/April 1998 ; April/99/mhd



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He is probably the John McDonald who married Sarah, the daughter of James Swain, Sr., in 1825. His age is right and the suggestion that he owed his promotion to favouritism would accord with his being Swain's son-in-law. The name of James Swain, Sr. appears in one of McDonald's ledger accounts.

A.16/36, fo. 148d.

From the card index to the Anglican Parish Registers, Provincial Archives of Manitoba:

12 July 1825 John McDonald married Sarah, daughter of James Swain "supposed residence, England and a native woman." Sarah was baptized the same day, as were their two daughters, Catherine & Flora

25 Sept. 1827 - Baptism of their daughter Mary

22 Sept. 1829 - Baptism of their daughter Charlotte

15 Nov. 1831 - Baptism of their son Donald

4 May 1834 - Baptism of their son John

From the card index to the 1870 Red River Census, Provincial Archives of Manitoba:

John McDonald is listed as a widower of 81 years, born in Scotland, the son of Angus McDonald. Children listed with him are: James, aged 26, Catherine, aged 50, Christie, aged 28.

