Notes on change between 1841 and 1851 census figures.

1841 figures Total houses: 169; males: 480; females: 499; population: 979; families: 171

1851 figures Total houses: 142; males: 410; females: 427; population: 837; families: 143

Since the 1841 Census, the recorded population had fallen by 72 females and 70 males, but this can be corrected to an actual loss of 71 females (down 14%) and 82 males (down 17%) by allowance for transients.

The number of families had fallen by 28 (down 16%) and the number of occupied houses had fallen by 27; no houses were recorded as "unoccupied" in either census.

The above broadly confirms the "Remarks of the Minister of the Parish", viz: "Since last census about 80 persons emigrated from the parish of Colonsay to Upper Canada, and four families removed to different parts of Scotland. One family consisting of 7 persons came to reside in it - Lachlan McKenzie, Minister of Jura & Colonsay."

It is possible to identify those persons who appear in the 1841 census, but not in the 1851 returns; some are known to have died (O.P.R. and Graveyards inscriptions) but the balance must include the emigrants mentioned by the minister. It is also possible to identify "new" persons in Colonsay in 1851, 10 years of age or more, who should include the "family of 7 persons."