MIGRATION & EMPIRE 1830-1939

The impact of Scots Emigrants on the Empire.

This theme will cover the impact of Scots emigrants on the growth and development of the Empire with reference to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India in terms of:

- Economy and enterprise
- Culture and religion
- Native societies.

Background:

Liberal MP Sir Charles Dilke, writing in 1888, remarked that: ‘In British settlements, from Canada to Ceylon, from Dunedin to Bombay, for every Englishman that you meet who has worked himself up to wealth from small beginnings without external aid, you find ten Scotchmen’. This was made possible by the Treaty of Union in 1707, which made Scotland a full partner in the largest free trade empire in the world. The Scots almost immediately took advantage of the situation and there were large outflows of men and women looking for a new life and a new beginning, mainly at this time in North America.
The Scottish Influence:

Between 1763 and 1777, 50,000 Scots from (mainly) the west of Scotland settled in North America. Their drive and education saw them quickly dominate the tobacco trade and other areas of economic life, such as fur-trapping in Canada. Education and religion were other areas of cultural life where the Scottish influence was overwhelming. Such was the strength of the Scottish presence in America that 19 of the 56 delegates who signed the Declaration of Independence came from Scotland and/or Ulster; indeed, 75% of US presidents, including Barack Obama, could claim some Scottish ancestry.

Although America ended its colonial status in 1783, cultural and economic links were maintained with the mother country. Even today, Scottish food, culture and athletics are celebrated in the many Highland gatherings, Burns Clubs' and Caledonian Societies' meetings in Canada and the USA. Scots and those of Scottish descent made important contributions to the development of the American economy, for example Andrew Carnegie, David Dunbar Buick and William Blackie.

In Canada, Lord Mount Stephen was behind the creation of the great Canadian Pacific Railway, and other Scotsmen dominated the economy to the extent that one-third of the country’s business elite were of Scottish origin. The Scot John Muir was the driving force behind the establishment of the National Parks Movement. Even American Gospel music, which has been traditionally linked to Africa and slavery, is now seen to have been the outcome of a combination of influences. Some historians have highlighted the impact of Scottish Gaelic speakers from North Uist on the development of Gospel over the last few centuries.

The Scottish presence was also strongly evident in India. When Henry Dundas became President of the Board of Control in 1784 he ‘Scoticised’ India and through his agencies Scots came to dominate the activities of the East India Company (EIC); a private company which administered and defended territory claimed by the British until 1857. By 1792, Scots made up one in nine EIC civil servants, one in eleven common soldiers and one in three officers.

The first three Governor-Generals of India were Scots. Vast fortunes were made by imperial administrators and entrepreneurs. However, there were also scholars and scientists who made important contributions to Indian culture and society. Colin Campbell completed the first geographical survey of India; Alexander Kydd created the Botanic gardens in Calcutta; and others such as engineers developed the infrastructure of India. Even after the dissolution of the EIC in 1857 and the introduction of competitive entry into the British administration, Scots still played an important part in the running of India.

The Earl of Elgin, Viceroy of India 1862-1863:

Seven of the 12 viceroys were Scottish and many Scots served as judges, district commissioners, and so on. Ceylon (Sri Lanka) was added after the Scottish 73rd Regiment defeated the Dutch in 1815. Ceylon became synonymous with tea; a product developed by James Taylor but brought to world renown by the Glasgow businessman, Sir Thomas Lipton.
India became a massive market for the British economy, but more importantly for the metal industries of Scotland. Practically all the railway engines in India were built in Springburn in Glasgow. The east of Scotland was also strongly linked economically through the jute trade. Dundee became the centre of jute making in the world and the Camperdown works of the Baxter Brothers the largest mill in the world.

But it was not always trade that was the driving force behind emigration. Religious impulses were behind the desire to populate New Zealand and to create ‘little Scotlands’. The Otago settlement in the South Island and the Waipu settlement in the North Island were the products of two Scottish ministers. Dunedin (Gaelic for Edinburgh) became the capital of the former and already had a university by 1869. In Waipu, Gaelic was the first language in their homes until the 1880s and many still spoke it in the 1920s.

The defence of territories from equally acquisitive foreign powers, such as France, saw the chance for Highlanders to redeem themselves in the eyes of British state after the 1745 Rebellion. Highland regiments fought with great distinction in the wars of Empire, from Europe to Canada and to Asia, with around a quarter of men of military age engaged in some kind of service in the period 1792–1815. They became an integral, almost indivisible, part of the imperial project. They had established Britain as the undisputed master of the globe and, during the 19th century went on to build an empire on which the sun literally never set.

Not all territorial expansion involved war, at least not against major powers. The empire’s growth was dependent on the suppression of local peoples and their cultures. This was graphically illustrated in Australia with the brutal treatment of the Aborigines. The Scots were at the forefront of this assault on native peoples, showing themselves to be as ruthless as any other ethnic group when it came to land grabbing. This was also true in New Zealand, where the Maori population fell from around 150,000 in 1800 to 37,000 in 1872 as a result of a protracted struggle with the settlers over land rights. Thus, while the Scots also distinguished themselves as businessmen, professionals and administrators, the story of conquest was not always a pretty one.

Much of the justification for imperial expansion was based on the idea of the civilising mission of higher racial groups towards more backward and racially inferior peoples. British rule was extended throughout the less developed world through a mixture of the bible and gunpowder.

However, it was not as settlers that Scots played a significant role in British expansion in Africa but as individuals working through the Scottish Presbyterian missions. The explorer and missionary David Livingstone, from Blantyre in South Lanarkshire, inspired many others to follow him to Africa, known as the ‘dark continent’, after carrying out work there in the 1840s and 1850s.

David Livingston:
Mary Slessor, a mill girl from Dundee, was one of them. She, like her idol, went ‘literally where no white man had gone before’ in her quest to save souls in the Calabar region of Nigeria.

However, by driving into the uncharted interiors of the continent and encouraging trade between the natives and British traders they opened up the territories to further imperial expansion. They were largely unsuccessful in attracting converts to Christianity. Still, men and women such as Livingstone and Slessor helped in the long run to change deeply entrenched notions regarding the divine right to rule ‘lesser races’, to a more ethical position on foreign policy. They felt the native population to be only inferior to Europeans in the sense that they were without God. Their desire to bring education to Africans led to national independence movements in central, eastern and southern Africa, as well as India. Moreover, it was the educational work of Presbyterian missionaries that was largely responsible for creating the widely held belief that Scottish education was the best in the world.

Thus, the Scots were important to the development of the Empire in diverse ways: as businessmen, as educators, as missionaries, as imperial administrators and soldiers. Their contribution was so substantial that it has led some historians to refer to ‘the Scottish empire’. While the Scots were hugely important to the global growth of British influence, to argue that the Empire was essentially their creation would be to ignore the role of the British state and other national groupings such as the English and the Irish. The Scots may have run the Empire, and profited by it, but at the end of the day it was London that decided its fate. It was English laws and civil institutions that the Scot was to uphold and live by.
Tasks:

The Scottish Influence:

1. What were the sort of traits Scots had which saw them dominate and succeed in so many areas?
2. What evidence is there to show that Scottish culture is still celebrated abroad even today?
3. Give some examples of successful Scots in Canada and India.
4. How did the British Empire help Scottish trade?
5. What was one of the driving forces behind the desire to populate New Zealand?
6. Which group of Scots helped Britain establish itself as the undisputed master of the globe?
7. How did Britain justify the suppression of local peoples and their cultures?
8. How was the territories opened up to further imperial expansion?
9. Explain how Scottish education came to be regarded as the best in the world?
10. Sum up how the important Scots were to the development of the Empire.

For the remainder of this booklet, you should take notes on each country, i.e.:

Canada
Australia
New Zealand
India

And for each country, you should gather detailed notes on the impact Scots had (positive and negative) in these countries in terms of:

Economy and Enterprise
Culture and religion
Native Societies

Also, you'll find some IT tasks which I urge to complete as they are core parts of the course.
Canada:
Canada was first colonised in the 17th and 18th centuries by both the French and the British. In 1791 the Constitutional Act formally separated the country into Lower and Upper Canada. Upper Canada was basically British, while Lower Canada was mainly French. From the time of its colonization, it would become a popular emigration destination. Canada was certainly one of the most popular destinations for Scots emigrants. Out of 1,841,534 emigrants leaving Scotland between 1825 and 1914, a quarter chose to go to Canada. Indeed in 1871 Scottish origin was claimed by over 79% of the population living in the eastern counties. Due to the huge Scottish presence it was inevitable that the Scots would go on to influence religion, education, literature, medicine as well as journalism, transport and politics.

Economy and Politics:
Just as they would in Australia and New Zealand, some Scots continued their tradition of working the land when they arrived in Canada. Those who were unlikely to inherit the family holdings from their parents when they arrived in Ontario were sent to foundries, mills and workshops which allowed them to gain the technical skills which would give them the advantage over other groups.

In the 1880s Scots migrants dominated Canadian textiles, paper, sugar, oil, iron and steel, furniture making, the fur trade and bakery products. They also were incredibly influential in transport which would allow the economy to grow through allowing goods to be transported at a quicker rate. George Stephen from Dufftown, Moray, was the driving force behind the giant Canadian-Pacific Railway which transformed Canada by linking East with West.

George Stephen:

Scots were prominent in Canadian politics. Indeed there was one particular Scot who would unite and transform the nation. His name was Sir John A. Macdonald. He was born on 11th January 1815 in Glasgow. He emigrated to Kingston, Upper Canada in 1820. He became the first Prime Minister of Canada. He died 6th June 1891.

Macdonald had been a lawyer in Kingston before becoming involved in Canadian politics in 1854. Alongside French-Canadian lawyer Georges Etienne Cartier and fellow influential Scots, George Brown (editor of the newspaper, The Globe) and Alexander Galt; he pushed through all the important legislation to unite Upper and Lower Canada in a Confederation, or union, to form one country. When New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island noted their interest in federation in 1864, Macdonald planned to include them in the confederation of the rest of Canada. A conference was held in Quebec, where Macdonald Cartier, Brown and Galt acted as the principal negotiators. In reality, although assisted by these other men, the plan for federation outlined at the Quebec Conference was almost entirely MacDonald’s.
John Macdonald contd.

After some small changes, the British North America Act of 1867 was passed, which formally established the Dominion of Canada. Macdonald went on to become the first Prime Minister of the united country and would continue to dominate the political scene in Canada. He was also knighted for all of his work.

Upon returning to power in 1875 Macdonald was instrumental in introducing a system of tariff protection as well as organising a contract with a new company to build the transcontinental rail link promised in the previous administration. He promised it would be constructed within 10 years. The contract agreement was passed in 1881 including a grant of $25 million and 25 million acres of land. Although the company was forced to obtain a further loan of $20 million from the government, secured against the land, this was repaid in 1887. The railway opened in 1886, five years ahead of schedule.

IT Tasks:
1) Go to the LTScotland Migration & Empire site and click on ‘Video Sources’
2) Click on ‘Migration and Empire - Emigration and the Empire’ and watch the video.

3) Is it a myth to say that the ‘English ruled the Empire but the Scots ran? Give evidence to back up your answer.
4) How many Canadian Universities were founded by Scots?
5) Politically, where would you place most emigrant Scots on a political spectrum?
6) Mention some of the more unsavory ventures Scots were involved in.
7) Take some notes on the role of Scots abroad.
8) Were Scots emigrants welcome?
9) Which group of people suffered at the hands of Scots?

Between 1815 and 1870, around 170,000 Scots emigrated to Canada.

Glenbow Archives NA-3542-1

John Murray, father of modern Oceanography.

Between 1815 and 1870, around 170,000 Scots emigrated to Canada.
Culture:

Place Manes, Languages and a bit of religion

The Scots impact on Canada went beyond the realms of politics and the economy. Their legacy can be seen simply in the place names in the country. When the Highland emigrants arrived they took with them not only their language of Gaelic, but also place names. If you look at a map of Canada you will see many Scottish place names with a link to the Hebrides, such as Stornoway, Tolsta, Galson and Ballallan. Lowland emigrants also carried place names with them, such as Ayr, Glasgow, Lanark and Stirling. There are even links to the North East, such as Banff, Elgin and Aberdeen. The list is enormous! The very province Nova Scotia itself means New Scotland, highlighting the simple cultural impact they had on the country.

The Highland emigrants continued to use Gaelic in Canada. It remained the main language in many communities, particularly Cape Breton and Nova Scotia, well into the 20th Century. Gaelic newspapers were even circulating in the 1930s, demonstrating the massive impact and cultural links between Scotland and Canada. The Christian religious faith, be it Roman Catholic or Presbyterian, was able to thrive in communities where only Gaelic was spoken by the early settlers. Eventually they did become bi-lingual, but the Gaelic language was fundamental to the settlers, and as a result it continued into the modern day.

Education, Indigenous Relations and more Religion!

There is little information available regarding the relationship with the indigenous people of Canada. From what has been sourced, it is apparent that relations between the Scots settlers and the Inuit were peaceful and friendly. Indeed some Inuit would gather at whaling stations and work for the visiting Scottish and American ships.

What is clear however is that the Scots had a large impact on education and religion, which often appear to go hand in hand. The Scottish clergy were prominent in the foundation and administration of many institutions in Canada, including the University of Manitoba in 1877. The interest in learning was universal amongst the Scottish settlers, with some settlements bringing their own teachers. Other groups relied on the local minister, Catholic or Presbyterian, for their education.

Pictou College, Nova Scotia:

As a result of this desire for learning amongst the Scots many Presbyterian colleges were established. These included Morrin College (Quebec City, 1862), Pictou Academy (Nova Scotia, 1816), Queen's College (Kingston, 1841), and Manitoba College (Winnipeg, 1877). The Scottish influence extended beyond mere foundations of seats of educational learning to also running these establishments. There were Scottish principals and administrators involved in McGill, Trinity College and Universities in New Brunswick and Toronto. Sir Francis Xavier University of Nova Scotia was also founded by Scots, this time by Catholic Highlanders.
Scots also played a role in Canadian literature and sports. Alexander McLachlan (1818-1896), from Johnstone in Renfrewshire, was a poet heavily influenced by Robert Burns. Indeed he has been called the “Burns of Canada” because of his use of the Scottish dialect in his works. He wrote satire and would often attack Bible believers and those with money conscious attitudes. He also wrote poems focusing on the homesickness of many Scots. The emigrants also brought with them various sports and activities including the Highland Games, which were first played in Canada in 1819. The Canadian interest in curling and golf is often attributed to Scottish origins, with curling being one of the main national sports alongside hockey.

The armed forces also have links with the Scots, particularly in relation to names of regiments. In the 1860s and 1870s two Highland units were raised in Nova Scotia, including the 79th Highland Battalion of Infantry, which later became the 1st Battalion Nova Scotia Highlanders. There was a heavy Scottish influence on the Canadian army and the links between the two nations inevitably meant that during wars, Britain could rely on Canada for support and manpower. This was apparent in both the Boer War (1899-1902) and World War One (1914-1918). In short, the Scots were crucial to the growth of Canada in many ways, including its education, religion and protection.

Tasks:
1) Before moving on to Australia, New Zealand and India, are you gathering the notes correctly, efficiently and in a way that you can quickly get information from? Compare your notes with fellow pupils.
The Scots also contributed to Canada’s growth by sending a number of orphans there to begin a new life. This would mean a wealth of labour to help boost the fledgling country’s economy. A key figure in this move was William Quarrier from Greenock. He was responsible for founding a charitable organisation called the Quarriers in 1871. Initially he set up orphanages in Scotland and from 1872 began sending some of these children to Canada to start a new life.

William Quarrier, born in Greenock, 1829.

Only suitable children were sent, with the first party of 35 Glasgow and Edinburgh children being sent to Canada on 23rd June 1872 after the charity managed to raise enough money to cover the fee of £10 passage per child. The idea was to send children to good Christian homes where they would be cared for. Due to rising numbers by 1887 a special reception and distribution centre was built in Canada called Fairknowe Home, located in Brockville, Ontario. The centre employed a resident superintendent, a matron and staff to find homes for the orphans and also to provide after care until they reached the age of 21. Adverts were placed in local papers and in church circles, specifically to farmers, hoping that they would either adopt a child or employ an older one. By early 1933 nearly 7,000 poor children had been sent to Canada, which in turn would significantly boost the labour market.

Some other Significant Scots:

Hugh Allan (1810–1882)
Financier and shipping magnate.

H. Montagu Allan (1860–1951)
Banker, ship owner, sportsman.

Alexander Graham Bell (1847–1922)
Eminent scientist, inventor and innovator who is credited with inventing the first practical telephone.

John William Dawson (1820–1899)
Scientist, educator.

William Dow (1800–1868)
Brewer and businessman.

Hugh Graham (1848–1938)
Newspaper publisher.

Robert Mackay (1840–1916)
Businessman, statesman.

Peter McGill (1789–1860)
Businessman, politician

Duncan McIntyre (1834–1894)
Businessman

Extensive resources about the Scots in Canada are available @

http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scotsandcanada/index.asp

It includes primary materials and media resources BUT you need to be aware that some information is pre-1830!
Australia:

Australia began its life under British rule as a faraway place to send convicts, as well as striking miners, Charters and food rioters in the 1840s. Perhaps as a result, there were mixed messages about choosing Australia as a destination for a new life. Despite these however, Australia became a fairly popular choice for many Scots. In the early 1850s an estimated 90,000 Scots left for Australia, possibly prompted by the discovery of gold, alongside other reasons.

Various charities and other private organizations became prevalent in assisting many Scots to leave their homeland and find a new life elsewhere. One charity was the Highland and Island Emigration Society, who between 1852 and 1858 helped 5000 Highlanders to escape from famine and go to Australia. Private companies would send out special emigration agents to give lectures, issue pamphlets, hold discussions or even arrange personal visits to prospective emigrants, in order to encourage them to leave their homeland. The Australian Company of Edinburgh and Leith, established in 1822, encouraged Scots to emigrate, describing the “fertility of the soil”; “the salubrity of the climate”, “the abundance mineral resources and navigatable waterways that awaited them”. During their decade of existence passengers would leave from Leith at a cost of 24 guineas if they travelled steerage, to 50 guineas if they wanted a cabin.

Regardless of how Scots were able to reach their destination and who helped them, be it from private savings, charities, family, landowners or government schemes, they would go on to have a massive impact on Australian businesses, education, religious and cultural life.

Economy and Politics:

The Scots provided Australia with a wealth of talent to contribute towards its economic growth including farmers, bankers, politicians, merchants, businessmen and professionals, as well as singers, poets, priests and painters. Australia also gained in terms of produce which was imported from Scotland, such as Ayrshire cows and bulls, Clydeside stallions and mares, which could be used on the land, as well as ale and whisky. All of these things would contribute to Australia’s economy in some form.

Scots were extremely active in working the land. They also kept cattle and sheep. Money was raised to pay for this through investment from the rich back home. There were also Scottish investment houses which allowed the pastoral economy to bloom. An early leader in this was the Clyde Company, founded in 1836, to make loans for the development of pastoral agriculture in the district of Port Phillip (later Melbourne). It originated in Glasgow in connection with a merchant dynasty based in the Dennistoun area of the city. These companies did well in the sheep and wool market, a staple of the Australian economy.

The sale of land in Australia was booming in the 1880s. Land was seen as an investment opportunity. Some Scots even created new estates. William Leslie, Laird of the Warthill estate at Old Rayne in Aberdeenshire sent three of his “surplus” sons to Australia. The sheep farming investments lined the pockets of the family and brought about further emigration to Australia by encouraging tenants from the Warthill estate, who would find lucrative employment in this new country.
Scots were just as prevalent in Australian politics as they were in other countries they left for. **Of the first six governors of New South Wales, half of them were Scots.** One of the most prominent was Lachlan Macquarie, who originally came from Ulva, near Mull. He was against drink and as a result cut the number of pubs in Sydney from 75 to 20. He also ordered the pubs to close during hours of divine service, and raised duty on spirits. What was more significant during his Governorship was his role in bringing about the laying down of roads to the interior of the country and the foundation of planned villages like those in Scotland. Each one had a square, a bridge, a school and a police station.

**Culture: Education, Religion and Literature.**

Just as they had been in Canada, and would be in New Zealand and India, the Scots brought about the foundations of various seats of educational learning. Scotch College for example was opened in Melbourne in 1851, which would provide education for the sons of the wealthy in the state of Victoria. Individual students thrived under Alexander Morrison who was originally from Moray. He was principal of the school between 1857 and 1903, and even modelled its curriculum on the lines of Elgin Academy, the school he himself had attended. Scottish professors could be found in various universities and schools across Australia, especially at the University of Sydney.

The picture above shows John Dunmore Lang, born 1799 in Greenock. He founded schools in Sydney Australia under the Church of Scotland. He is discussed over the page.
As in Canada, education in Australia was in part connected to religion. John Dunmore Lang from Greenock was responsible for founding the Caledonian Academy primary school that was attached to the Scots church in Sydney. This was supervised by the Church of Scotland and included daily prayers, Bible study and religious education. This initial school failed but by 1844 a total of thirteen primary schools had been founded in the Sydney area, nearly all with Scottish teachers. In 1857 the Australian College was opened by Lang and staffed by three members of the Church of Scotland. During its 23 year existence the College educated many boys, 500 of whom went on to hold influential positions in Australia and to have a major impact on the country’s development.

Ebenezer Syme, born 1826 in North Berwick; emigrated to Victoria in 1853. Journalist and part owner of the newspaper, The Age:

Relations with the Indigenous People.

Unlike in Canada where the relationship with the Indigenous people seems to have been relatively peaceful, the relationship with the Aborigines was far more volatile. In fact the Scots, alongside other emigrant groups, played a crucial role in bringing about the near-extinction of a human race.

The Aboriginal population was small due to the primitive way of life they led. Both the Aborigines and the emigrant Scots needed and wanted the land for their own use, which inevitably led to tension. The expansion in farming took the Scots to unexplored areas, where sometimes they would require the assistance of an Aboriginal guide. As the Scots expanded their farming this led to conflict with the nomadic Aborigines. The result of the tension was violence and the decline of the Aboriginal population.

A number of Scots were guilty of forcing the Aborigines off of their land, and on occasion would even kill them. There was a heavy emphasis on sheep farming in Australia which provided the Scots with a key industry to work in, which would benefit the country’s economy. For a small fee they would get acres of land, large flocks of sheep which would result in large bank balances and a reputation. The consequence of this desire to do well and prosper meant that the indigenous population were not given a second thought, and in fact were seen as expendable.
The Scots involved were not worried about wiping out an entire race of people. They viewed the Aborigines as savage, uncivilised and not even human, as evident in a letter by DS Murray. Writing from China Farm in Canning River in 1839, Murray wrote to his mother that: “Our natives have been much more quiet lately and I think every year they will become more accustomed to our ways if not civilised.”

The volatile relationship between some Scots and the Aborigines reached a new height in the 1840s. Angus McMillan from Skye had been exploring the Gippsland area of Victoria in 1840, led by an Aboriginal guide. Between 1841 and 1842 five white men, including Ronald Macalister, had been murdered, allegedly by Aborigines. The consequence came in 1843 where along with other Scottish settlers, McMillan played a leading role in the Warrigal Creek Massacre, where an estimated 60-150 Aborigines were killed.

**THE WARRIGAL CREEK MASSACRE**

The Scottish settlers decided that the tribe had to atone for the murders of the white men since they could identify the individuals guilty of the offences. They dubbed themselves the Highland Brigade and went in search of the Aboriginal tribe. They found more than 100 men, women and children camped by a waterhole on Warrigal Creek. The Scots galloped up, surrounded them and shot without warning. Some of the Aborigines jumped in the water to hide, but the Scots picked them off as they came up from air, leaving the creek to run red with blood. They paused simply to cover the heaps of bodies with sand and then left. Within a few years the several thousand Aborigines of Gippsland virtually disappeared, largely as a result of Scots emigrants, alongside other groups, encroaching on Aboriginal land for their own profit.

**Some other significant Scots:**

Thomas Brisbane (1773-1860)
Governor of New South Wales

Andrew Fisher (1862-1928)
First Labour Prime Minister of Australia

Angus McMillan (1810-1865)
explorer and pastoralist

Marie MacKillop (1842-1909)
set up free school for poor children & religious order Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart

David Mitchell (1829-1916)
building contractor

George Reid (1845-1918)
Prime Minister of Australia

James Macpherson Grant
(1822 – 1 April 1885)
A politician and prosperous Melbourne solicitor, who became vice-president of the land and works board and commissioner of railways and roads in 1864.

Catherine Helen Spence
(31 October 1825 – 3 April 1910)
An Author, teacher, journalist, politician (Australia's first female political candidate) and leading suffragette.

Video resources about the Scots in Australia are available @


New Zealand

The first 150 Scottish settlers arrived in 1839, and between 1848 and 1860, 80% of immigrants to the area of Otago alone, were Scots born. As a result, it has been suggested that over 30% of the non-Maori population of New Zealand now is of Scottish lineage.

In early 1842, 500 Scottish labourers left Lowland Scotland and helped to develop Auckland. This marked the beginning of a shift to New Zealand. Assisted package schemes led to this shift in population. Thirty-one per cent of emigrants were agricultural labourers, 19% were domestics, 20% were skilled artisans and 10% labourers. Generally, emigrants were young, single men who came from the Highlands. By the 1870s, some single women started to make this shift. Small families who made the transition originated from Edinburgh and Glasgow. Scots tended to settle in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Economy and Politics:

In terms of work many joined the rush to make money. This was seen in a rise in entrepreneurs at this time. Others were happy to take part in the land reforms to gain money for themselves. Businesses were also created with the rise of shipping, frozen meat and dairy exports. Many of the emigrant skills gained in Scotland were utilised in farming, distilling and the creation of educational establishments. Early businesses earned the name of ‘Scottish cliques’ as they tended to use Scottish labour and trade with companies back home. Others came to try and make their fortune in mining gold when it was discovered.

In terms of farming, Scots left vast areas of Otago bare after felling all the trees. New Zealand was proved an attractive opportunity for tenant farmers and farm servants because of the availability of land. Running holdings, particularly in Otago and Canterbury on the South Island, involved a number of the Scottish settlers. Their land could range from a size of a few hundred acres to 315,000 acres. Scots prospered through sheep farming, just as their fellowmen did across the Tasman Sea. This played a large part in the displacement of the Maoris.

In terms of businesses, many prominent companies were established, for example New Zealand Refrigeration Company and Union Steamship Company. The Scot, Thomas Brydone, was a prominent businessman in New Zealand. He became interested in the dairy industry and frozen meat and alongside his partner, George Davidson, created the New Zealand and Australia Land Company. In 1882 they were responsible for shipping the first consignment of frozen meat from Port Chalmers in New Zealand to London on a ship, aptly named the Dunedin.

Scots born Thomas Brydone: The Dunedin:

The Scottish presence and impact in New Zealand was not always clean-cut. Sometimes there were individuals who had slightly more criminal tendencies who managed to influence and impact the country.
James Mackenzie, originally from Ross-shire became a famous outlaw in New Zealand for his sheep and cattle rustling. Despite this he played a vital role in opening up the country, which in turn would allow better transport and trading links, which in turn would benefit the economy. Mackenzie had obtained land in the interior of Otago, based on his ability to stock it with sheep, but he had neither the money nor the sheep to fund and stock the holding. However, he did have a well trained sheepdog and was used to the mountainous terrain. He set out to explore the country and as a consequence of his actions, he eventually found a pass through the snowy mountains to the pastures of the Canterbury Plains, where possibly with the assistance of others, he explored 12,000 square miles of terrain. The route he prospected became known as Mackenzie's Pass.

The Scots were equally prominent in New Zealand politics as they were elsewhere. For example, the second Labour Prime Minister, Peter Fraser, was born in Ross-shire. Dr David Munro was another important and influential figure in New Zealand politics. He arrived in the country in 1842 and was responsible for introducing the first sheep from Australia.

Within 20 years he himself had 14,000 sheep on an estate of 13,000 acres. As well as occasionally practicing medicine, Munro became a foundation member of the Company of Governors of Nelson College and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1853, where he acted as Speaker between 1861 and 1870.

(Reward poster published in The Lyttelton Times in May 1855 offering a reward for the capture of Mackenzie)

It was another Scot who was responsible for ensuring that history in Scotland was not repeated in New Zealand. Legislation was passed which basically outlawed absentee landlords which had been such a prevalent problem in Scotland. People were unable to buy up land just to rent out for profit. The man behind this was John Mackenzie who was appointed as Minister of Lands in 1891. A law was passed which included measures where the Government reserved the freehold to all Government sold lands. This also gave the Government the power to get the land back under compulsory purchase.

Sheep Farming:

Gold digging:

Culture

Like their fellow Scots in Canada, the Scots settlers who came to New Zealand also brought place names with them. Dunedin in the south province of Otago means New Edinburgh. The link between the city and the capital in Scotland extends beyond the city's name. Dunedin also shares many street names with Edinburgh, including Princes Street, George Street, St Andrews Street and Moray Place to name a few. The South Island had numerous and distinctly Scottish place names such as Paisley, Stirling, Campbeltown, Oban and Roxburgh. There are also many Bens (mountains), for example Ben Nevis, Ben Lomond and one slightly strange Maori-Scottish mixture, Ben Ohau.
The Scots continued to impact the New Zealand culture through religion. The settlement of Otago was developed by the Free Church of Scotland as a Presbyterian colony in the 1840s. This attracted families in particular through promises of a well-ordered Christian society with good educational facilities and Scottish culture. Education was not a huge priority amongst the Otago Presbyterian pioneers. Only 100 out of 270 children living in or around Dunedin attended school in 1853. Eventually education became more important and schooling was controlled by the Provincial Government rather than the Church.

The historian, Tom Brooking, has said that New Zealand educational development received “greater assistance from the Scots than any other immigrant group” and there is considerable evidence to substantiate this claim. James MacAndrew, an Aberdonian, became a leading merchant and politician in Dunedin, who was instrumental in establishing training colleges and schools as well as the University of Dunedin. Over 100 schools were founded thanks to him. As a result he is viewed as one of the “Founding Fathers” of New Zealand. He has even been commemorated by the people of Otago who have instituted a £500 scholarship in his memory to be used to send deserving medical students from Otago to the University of Aberdeen to complete their training.

James MacAndrew, born Aberdeen 1819; went to New Zealand 1851:

Relations with the indigenous People:

The story surrounding the relationship between Scots settlers and the indigenous people of New Zealand, the Maoris, echoed what happened in Australia. The relationship was very mixed and could be highly volatile. Sometimes this was by accident. A proportion of the Maori population lost their lives or became ill as a result of catching “civilised” diseases such as syphilis and measles which the settlers had brought with them. Consequently their numbers declined in the 1840s.

The Maori population also suffered a decline due to the loss of land and territory. The sale of land, which technically belonged to the Maoris, was theoretically impossible, but the Scots were able to bargain with them, and consequently the Maoris broke their own laws and sold the land in return for muskets. Thus the Scots had a considerable impact in the decline of another indigenous race, although it must be remembered they were not the only ones to blame.

New Zealand is made up of two main islands, North and South. The relationship between the Scots settlers and the Maori population on the South Island was very peaceful, and many of the Maoris had converted to Christianity. The settlers in the area of Otago bought land from the Maoris, and had a very congenial relationship with them.
However in the North Island it was a different story. The Maori uprisings (occurring between 1845 and 1872) were confined to the North Island, and one Scot, Donald Mclean is largely responsible for the unnecessary Maori Wars in the nineteenth century, which saw innocent blood spilt. Mclean did redeem himself in part by later ensuring lasting peace, but this does not detract from the fact that a proportion of Scots settlers were guilty of reducing the number of indigenous people in the North Island.

SOME OTHER SIGNIFICANT SCOTS IN NEW ZEALAND

George Bruce (?1798–1819)
The first recorded settler, 1809.

George Rennie (1801 or 1802 – 22 March 1860)
Founded settlement at Otago, 1842.

John Campbell (1817–1912)
Sent first cargo of New Zealand produce from Auckland to England, 1844.

Rev Norman McLeod (1778–1866)
Brought his parishioners from Nova Scotia, 1852.

Rev Thomas Burns (1796?–1866)
Nephew of Robert Burns, leader of Otago colony.

Donald Sutherland (1843?–1921)
Discovered Sutherland Falls, the country's highest waterfall.

Sir Bernard Ferguson (1911–1980)
Governor General (as were his father and grandfather)

Sir Robert Stout (1844-1930)
born in Shetland, Prime Minister (1884–1887)

John Mackenzie (1839–1901)
born Ross-shire, Minister of Agriculture, 1890s.

Video resources about the Scots in New Zealand are available @


India

From the eighteenth century, the number of Scots venturing out to India under the East India Company’s service steadily increased due to a number of reasons. For many Jacobite refugees in Scotland, India was arguably a safe haven, as they had been treated with contempt after the rebellions of 1715 and 1745. The financial opportunity available, as well as employment opportunity appealed to many young Scots struggling to make ends meet in their native land, or for those wishing to refinance old family estates encumbered with debt. As a result ambitious young Scots flocked to India as soldiers, surgeons and civil servants.

Their role in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is more widely documented and as a result, the information for the period of 1830-1939 is slightly lacking. However, Scots continued to play a key role in the running of India throughout this period, as soldiers, civil servants and entrepreneurs.

Economy and Politics

The Scots impact on the economy of India is evident through the entrepreneurial skills of many Scots. From 1830 onwards, Scots became involved as general merchants with Indian interests. They began to export jute, tea, timber, coal, sugar and indigo as well as cotton. By 1880, with the help of Scottish entrepreneurs, India overtook China as leaders of tea distribution. Alexander Hall & Co of Aberdeen and Robert Steele & Co of Greenock invested in tea clippers and later investment came in the form of steamships.

Leith Docks c.1895; the ship Cockburn tied up.

‘The Glasgow Boys’ serving in India, during the Great War.
There was also interest in the building of railways, banking and commerce.

The Scottish impact on the Indian economy was coupled with a similarly influential role in politics. Indeed various Scottish individuals helped to sculpt it. Besides being prevalent in the Indian civil service, many took leading roles, be it as Governor-Generals or other ministerial roles.

It was the son of a Scot who created India’s penal code. His name was Thomas Babington Macaulay (1800-1859). While an MP in 1830, he was offered a seat on the supreme council of India, worth £10,000 per annum. He sailed for Calcutta in 1834, and whilst in India he was appointed president of the commission to look at the justice system. The result was the penal code, which he had based largely on Britain’s own.

James Andrew Broun-Ramsay (The Marquess of Dalhousie), was another influential figure in India politics and economic development. Born in Midlothian in 1812, James Andrew Broun-Ramsay, or the Marquess of Dalhousie to give him his full title, was to become another Governor-General of India who would bring about changes that would have long lasting impact on his adopted nation. He accepted his post of Governor-General of India and Governor of Bengal in 1848. He was forced to fight in the Punjab which was annexed to the Crown, followed by Burma which was also annexed. He initiated a movement to build canals, roads and railways which would help to open up the country. He also brought in cheap postage and introduced the telegraph, which would improve communications in the country and allow the economy to benefit. By the end of his time in office, the main route to India was by steamship, which enabled faster sailing times between India and elsewhere.

Culture, Education & Religion.

The impact of the Scots extended beyond the realms of economy and politics to that of education and religion, and the very culture of India. Their role in education is apparent, usually hand in hand with religion.

Alexander Duff, who had attended St Andrew’s University, began teaching at the General Assembly’s Institution, now known as the Scottish Church College in Calcutta in July 1830. Duff adopted a western curriculum in his teaching, including religion, science, history and political economy. He believed in free education and as a result charged no fees to his pupils, which amounted to around 200 boys who he had enrolled.

The Marquess of Dalhousie was also important in another way. He foresaw something that many had failed to notice – the coming of a mutiny within the ranks of India soldiers. It was Dalhousie who warned the government of the impending likelihood of an India Mutiny. This mutiny took place in 1857, and brought about the downfall of the East India Company. However British rule in India would continue for another ninety years.
Another influential character in India’s education was John Wilson. Born in Lauder in the Scottish Borders in 1804, he gained his own education through the University of Edinburgh. After this he travelled to Bombay where he formed a native church where Marathi was the language of instruction. He became the President of the literacy society of Bombay and in 1843 went on to join the Free Church, where he served as the Moderator of the General Assembly in 1870.

Wilson’s real influence and impact however, began in 1857 when on the foundation of the University of Bombay, he became its vice-chancellor. Indeed, he is credited in part for the city’s rapid progress which was routed in its educational system. Fifteen years after his death in 1874, a college was founded in his memory, which to this day displays the Scottish saltire.

The Scottish influence in modern-day Pakistan is also evident. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Scottish culture arrived in the area. Sialkot in Pakistan has been home to a thriving bagpipe manufacturing business for over a century now, with many small companies in the city making pipes as well as Highland dress, and exporting them all over the world. In 1895, a thriving business was established selling bagpipes and Highland dress to British Army regiments. What is truly amazing is that they began to export their goods to Scotland!

Generally speaking however, although there has been a long tradition of Scots involvement in India, few settled and they tended to return to Scotland to be replaced by family members.

You should now have a detailed set of notes on:

- Canada
- Australia
- New Zealand
- India

And for each country, you should have detailed notes on the impact Scots had (positive and negative) in these countries in terms of:

- Economy and Enterprise
- Culture and religion
- Native Societies

Now attempt Paper 2 question related to this theme.
Useful Links:

The impact of Scots emigrants on the Empire, LTS*
http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/ng/resources/higherscottishhistory/migrationandempire/impactofscotsemigrants/index.asp

Migration and Empire - Emigrants and the Empire Video Resources, LTS
http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/video/n/video_tcm4567284.asp?
strReferringChannel=higherscottishhistory

Migration and Empire Historical Documents, LTS

The Scots in Canada, LTS (remember the period we are studying is 1830-1939)
http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scotsandcanada/index.asp

Scotland’s History – Emigration to Australia and New Zealand, LTS