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nn McGregor. 1831-1931. daughter of John. Passenger on the Margaret. Married William Maxwell Lang. The reason is that when, after being here, even before he died, they were moving away from his concept. There was a little bit of guilt, because the concept that had got them here, and I don't think there's any question that the concept of a Gaelic community with their own land was what drove them. But I think there was a certain amount of guilt. They were in a new country, they were starting to mix.... I'm wondering, when all those stories came in about him, when he became such a figure of almost hate, certainly criticism, it wasn't a certain amount of guilt. Subconscious guilt, you know. "Unease" would perhaps be a better word. And then there would have been people who would have liked to have criticized him when he was alive, or considered they suffered by his moral teaching. I'm thinking of the Lang girls--two of them were quite early feminists in that time. They couldn't bear him. They were three unmarried women, and they had retired from the Reverend because he seemed to be anti-female.... So, it seems to me that I probably see him through rose-coloured spectacles because my people were Normanites. I think that Normanites could be narrow-minded towards him. But I don't see that as a fault. I mean, if not, we would have been sitting on Skye. I'm very thrilled that I'm living in New Zealand all these years. I think Cape Breton was better than Picton, because there was not so much rum and such, and it was better than Scotland. It was very beautiful when they went. I think this is a question that has stirred up a lot of people: Was he simply unable to settle? Did he just want to see himself as a continual leader? I don't agree. I can't forsee it, because his wife was sick and she had been a wonderful support. To a large extent, I have nothing to go on, but from what I have learned, and what I have absorbed, rightly or wrongly, there was no future for the next generation in Cape Breton.... I always hark back to the fact, given at that stage when they had been waiting in Auckland for the land, or even in Australia, when they would have to wait nearly another year, and go through the process of trying to get land up here. There was nothing sure about it. They turned down beautiful land down there simply because they couldn't all be together under the Reverend Norman McLeod....

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