

## 1882 – A year of upheaval

**7 April** - Sheriff officer leaves Portree to serve eviction notices. Papers are seized or burnt and notices are not served. The skirmish straddles the boundary between Gedintailor and Ollach. Some members of the crowd tangle with the legal representatives.

**19 April** - Two sheriffs including Sheriff Ivory, officials, one police captain and 47 policemen from Glasgow march into Braes to arrest five crofters – Alexander Finlayson (60-70), Malcolm Finlayson (son), Peter Macdonald, Donald Nicolson (66), James Nicolson. On their journey out of Braes through a narrow gorge and a crossing of the burn, Allt nan Gobhlag, an angry crowd gathers throwing stones and other missiles. The police are forced to speed up their journey but at An Cumhang they encounter further resistance from the angry crowd and a 'battle' takes place with a number of injuries from batons and thrown missiles on both sides.

**26 April** - The accused leave Inverness on bail and return to Skye on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**11 May** - Trial in Inverness. DN and AF are found guilty of assault, the others are regarded as accessories. All are fined but the fines are paid by a supporter. They leave for Portree on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**29 July** - Registered letters are sent out to crofters. See the copy of the envelope to John Stewart, Peinachorrain on the webpage. Delivery refused.

**2 September** - Second uprising by crofters as they refuse the serving of notices on 53 tenants. A few served at Gedintailor but officers driven back before they reached Balmeanach.

**11 September** - Police officers are recalled to Inverness.

**Early October** - The Estate sends registered letters to crofters requesting withdrawal of stock from Ben Lee. Many refuse to take delivery.

**24 October** - Another attempt to serve writs but crofters refuse. Officers and 9 police constables involved. The officials are stopped at the entrance to Balmeanach near the first house, by a crowd of about 150.

**27 November** - Agreement between crofters and landlord on the rent for the grazing on Ben Lee.