

profit in the Gaelic settlements. One or two examples will show the bright spirit that pervaded them—a contrast to Buchanan's sombre earnestness:

TRANSLATED:—

- (1) "Hark! Slon loud *rings* her King's high praises,
 She *sings* and raises her voice,
 His love to proclaim who *came* to aid her,
 His *name*, who made her his choice.
 Hallelujahs *prolong* the song that's given,
 Among wide Heaven's bright host,
 And those who while here, lies *near* to Jesus
 That *dear* sound pleases them most."

These lines may also serve as an example of that assonance which is characteristic of Gaelic versification,— the "leonine rhyme."

TRANSLATED:—

- (2) "In ilka trial we hae tae bear
 We'll nestle near him, there's shelter there,
 For if we trust Him, whate'er betide us,
 He'll save and guide us for ever mair.
 His frien's on earth He will ne'er disclaim,
 But bring wi' joy a' that loe his name,
 Frae His dear presence nae mair tae sever,
 But share for ever His Lasting Hame."

The year 1786 witnessed the arrival in Canada of a man of note, whose life-work will not be forgotten among the Gael. Rev. Dr. James Macgregor, the Gaelic Hymnist was born in 1759, at Portmore, in Perthshire. He settled at Pictou as a missionary, and preached in Gaelic to the Highlanders. A talented and scholarly divine, he composed hymns and religious poems which became popular among the Highlanders of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. They were sung in almost every family, and the testimony of the early ministers of the Gospel in the Maritime provinces is to the effect that these poems made a deep impression on the people. While known, they were not widely used in Upper Canada, at least, I have not been able to trace them much beyond the manse of the Gaelic speaking clergymen of Ontario, but MacGregor's collection sold well in Scotland and in Nova Scotia. In the west Rev. F. J. MacLeod published a book of hymns and spiritual songs, at Toronto, which found acceptance among the Kelts of northern and western Ontario—Victoria, Grey and Bruce counties. A poet better known than Mr MacLeod, was the Rev. Donald Monro, whose volume of Gaelic verses appeared in 1848, with an encouraging list of subscribers. Mr. Monro was a native of Kilmartin, Argyllshire, and settled in Glengarry in the forties, removing thence to the township of Finch where he enjoyed a lengthened ministry. He died in