Pages 195 (28), Sparking.

Sparking was a term equivalent to wooing or courting. It was the regular term in the middle third of the nineteenth century in Canada, but is now falling into disuse.

Page 200 (29), "and antler'd herds."

This refers to deer, often seen singly and in herds by the pioneer.

Page 224 (30), Rosa.

Salvator Rosa, a celebrated Italian landscape painter, of the Neapolitan School, lived 1615 to 1673.

Page 224 (51), "songless, ev'ry one."

It was a frequent subject of remark with McLachlan that the birds of America are songless. British birds are far more tuneful. The brighter plumage of the birds of the new world seemed to him compensation for lack of song. British birds compare unfavorably with ours in plumage.

Page 234 (32), "with its silver tassel."

In America, corn means maize, or "Indian corn." Our author refers to the long brilliant silk fringe or tassel at the top of the growing cob.

Pages 240, 291 (35), "gloamin's hour is long."

The scene is in latitude 56. The higher the latitude the longer are summer days, and the longer is twilight. This is very noticeable in eastern Quebec, still more so in Manitoba, with its latitude of 51 or 52. The scene of the song is in the same latitude as the centre of Hudson's Bay. The statement in the text is sober fact.

Pages 304, 324, 342 (34), Auld Hawkie.

William Cameron, "The King of Glasgow Wits," was "a gangrel buddy" (see next note), and was a celebrated character and street orator, familiarly known wherever he peregrinated, which was over most of the west of Scotland. He was called Hawkie from his burlesque prediction concerning the destruction of the "Briggate," and which prediction was announced by him as emanating "frae an Aberdour twa-year auld quey" ("quey" being a young cow, and "hawkie" being a Scots name for a white-faced cow, or sometimes for any cow, being frequently used as a pet name). Hawkie died about 1858. His biography has been published.

Page 305 (35), "gangrel folk."

"Gangrel folk" (presumably gangrel is from gang, to go) are tramps, riff-raff, "great unwashed," Carlyle's sansculottes.