

to the translator of the song for a translation of the notes also:—

NOTES TO EMIGRATION SONG.

[Translated from *McTalla*, 1895, and 1902.]

"This song was composed by Malcolm Ban Buchannan, one of the emigrants on the famous ship 'Polly,' that sailed from Portree, Isle of Skye, in the beginning of the Summer of 1803, and cast anchor in Orwell Bay on the 18th day of the first month of Autumn (August), the same year, with about eight hundred emigrants. The song begins with an account of their departure from Portree Harbor, and their dangerous sailing among the rocks and islands to the east and north of Skye, until they got to the open sea. It is to be understood from the Song that the piloting of the ship was intrusted to the most skilful and experienced among the passengers when there was need of them. The poem reflects strongly upon the relentless cruelty of the 'bailie,' and advises the people to flee from the tyranny of the landlords. It concludes by recommending Prince Edward Island to intending emigrants.

For a long time the poem was supposed to have been lost, but on the 29th of March, 1883, it was taken down from the mouth of an old man (Roderick McLeod, Portage), aged 85, who in his boyhood, learned it from the author. It is most likely that the air is the composition of one of the McCrimmons. The Song is a true specimen of the vernacular Gaelic, as it was spoken in Skye a century ago—as the author could neither read nor write—*McTalla*, 1895."

"The song was written by Ewen Lamont and sent to *McTalla*, in the Spring of 1895, by Murdhadh Cain (the late Murdoch Lamont, of Springhill, P. E. I.) We reprint it now at the request of some of our readers from P. E. Island.—*McTalla*, Nov. 14, 1902."

My correspondent adds: "Comparing this Song and the first Note above with the extracts from Chappell's diary in the September number of the PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND MAGAZINE, it seems very probable that of Selkirk's three ships the Polly alone sailed from Portree, and that she alone, anchored at Belfast. As the colonists hailed from different parts of the Highlands they did not necessarily all sail from the same port on the same day. We notice that there elapsed twenty days between the dates of arrival of the first and last ships. This would account for the poet's silence