

A Wreath of Canadian Song

performance was published at Portsmouth, 'in Piscataqua, or New Hampshire Colony, in America, in 1761,' the first having appeared in London in 1760, and the third 'in Massachusetts Colony, in 1762.'"

But the mere fact that these works were written, in part at least, on what is now Canadian territory and that in their subject-matter they bore reference to Canada, scarcely justifies us in classing them as Canadian poetry.

Perhaps the earliest publication that can with any degree of accuracy come under this heading, was one entitled "The New Gentle Shepherd," an English version, by Lieut. Adam Allan, of a Scottish dialect pastoral comedy by Allan Ramsay. This book was issued in 1798, and, besides the addition of a scene of Lieut. Allan's own composition, contains a description of the Grand Falls of the River St. John. Lieut. Adam Allan was a native of Dumfries, Scotland, born in 1757. He served for a number of years in the New Brunswick militia, and died at Poquiock, N.B., in 1823.

In his bibliography, N. E. Dionne makes mention of two early books published in Quebec, the first, "The Union of Taste and Science," a poem by Stephen Dixon, in 1799, and the other, "Canada, a Descriptive Poem Written at Quebec in 1805, with Satires, Imitations and Sonnets," printed anonymously in 1806.

There appeared in Dublin in 1809, "A Poetical Journal of a Tour From British North America to England, Wales and Ireland, Interspersed With Reflections, Natural, Moral and Political. To Which Are Subjoined Two Pieces of the Intended Jubilee," by