

## CHAPTER V

### EDUCATIONAL WORK IN NOVA SCOTIA

ABOUT the year 1849, an effort was made to infuse new life into Dalhousie College, an institution which had received a small provincial endowment, and possessed a building in the city of Halifax. Dr. McCulloch had been transferred some years before, from his position in Pictou, to be its principal; but on his death it threatened to lapse into a decaying state. In these circumstances it was suggested that, for one year, a series of extra-academical lectures on scientific and other subjects should be delivered, to which the public might be admitted—a sort of anticipation of the “university extension” movement of our time. An invitation was given to me to take one of these courses,—on natural history subjects. I had already delivered a short course in the Pictou Academy, besides lecturing before our local scientific society, so that the work was not altogether new, and the opportunity was one