

collected, concerning the profession in Nova Scotia, from the time of first settlement down to about the year 1800, or perhaps somewhat later. In doing so I will limit my undertaking to the peninsula of Nova Scotia, leaving Cape Breton, once a separate province, to others.

Professor Allison remarks:—"The present population of Nova Scotia is not the development of a single primitive nucleus or germ, neither has it resulted from a gradual and almost imperceptible sifting of promiscuous elements. It is mainly the product of certain well-defined immigrations of considerable size, capable of being more easily traced, because as a rule, they have occurred consecutively rather than simultaneously. National or racial distinctions are still plainly perceptible, and a long period must yet elapse before the process of blending is completed."

The successive waves of immigration to Nova Scotia may be arranged as follows.

1. Acadian French, dating back to 1604, or more strictly speaking, to 1632.
2. English, when Halifax was settled in 1749.
3. German and French Protestant, 1751-53.
4. New England Puritan, 1759-61. (Pre-Loyalist.)
5. North of Ireland settlers, who came in considerable force 1761-63.
6. Yorkshire people, 1772-75.
7. The Loyalists, 1782-84.
8. Scottish Highlanders, 1773-1820.
9. Irish from south and west of Ireland, 1825-50.

The distribution and development of these race-stocks, as well as the sources of medical supply, will be briefly referred to, as we proceed

For convenience as well as for other considerations, I will arrange the material which I wish to present, covering the period from 1604 to 1800, into three parts.

Part I. The period of French occupation.

The coast of Nova Scotia was long known to fishermen and traders before any attempt was made to establish an agricultural settlement. The advantage of a permanent self-sustaining colony for prosecuting trade, occurred to a Huguenot gentleman, Pierre du Guast, Sieur de