CONTENTS

Acknowledgments v
Prologue 3

PART I: THE GROWTH OF A COMMON SENSE PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Chapter 1: The Integration of Moral Philosophy and Natural Philosophy in Scottish Academia 11
Chapter 2: The Origins of Common Sense Philosophical Concern with the Nature of Science: Bacon and Newton Revisited in the Light of Hume 26
Chapter 3: Common Sense Concerns with the Nature of Mathematics 55
Chapter 4: A Change in Mood: Dugald Stewart, Thomas Brown, and the Acceptance of Hypothetical and Analogical Methods in Science 94
Chapter 5: Thomas Brown and William Hamilton: The Relativity of Scientific Knowledge and the Triumph of Simplicity and Analogy 125

PART II: THE INFLUENCE OF COMMON SENSE IDEAS ON THE EXACT SCIENCES IN BRITAIN

Chapter 6: Common Sense Reflections in the Natural Philosophy of John Robison and John Playfair 157
Chapter 7: Common Sense Elements in Scientific Reviews: 1790–1840 169
Chapter 8: John Leslie and Henry Brougham: Model Common Sense Scientists of the First Generation 194
Chapter 9: Common Sense Concerns Once Removed: James D. Forbes and John James Waterston 225
Chapter 10: Sir John Herschel’s Preliminary Discourse on the Study of Natural Philosophy and the Common Sense Tradition 252
Chapter 11: The Methodological Writings of William John Macquorn Rankine 271
Chapter 12: Culmination of the Tradition: Metaphysics and Method in the Works of James Clerk Maxwell 287
Epilogue 323
Index 337