

An History of the Instances of Exclusion from the Royal Society, which were not suffered to be argued in the Course of the late Debates ;.....With Strictures on the Formation of the Council, and other Instances of the Despotism of Sir J. Banks, the present President, and of his Incapacity for his high Office.

THOUGH we have certainly much reason to be satisfied with the success of publications, which, whatever the adversary, to hide his shame and mortification, may suggest, have hitherto remained without an answer, solely because the facts stated in them are unanswerable ; it is, notwithstanding, with a considerable degree of reluctance, that we again appear before the awful tribunal of the public. It is, indeed, no pleasing thing to be even the innocent causes of publishing the disgrace of a learned body ; nor do we feel complacency in giving way to a censure, some small part of which must light on those we admire and respect. Still, however, as there confessedly are circumstances which necessitate a departure from the general rules by which good men direct their conduct, we flatter ourselves that they apply to our case. Whether they do or not, will appear by the following short recapitulation of what has passed ; a fuller account of which may be met with in the pamphlets, entitled, *A Narrative of the Debates and Dissentions in the Royal Society, and An Appeal to the Fellows of the Royal Society.*

On the 11th and 18th of last December, we stood up in our places in the Society, to procure some kind of reparation, for what *we* shall always consider as a most *illiberal and unprecedented injustice*, done to a most respectable and worthy Member, our friend. Though we obtained what we then asked for, to wit, a vote of thanks, and a subsequent approbation of conduct ; the tone of authority assumed by the President, the very unfair manner in which he managed the debate, and the violent attempts he made to stop any discussion whatever, provoked one