

*gether* the same grounds nor the same points in view with this. Nor did they flow from the feelings of a parent.

That an art tending effectually to rescue a *certain proportion* of the human species in every age, and in every country, from *idleness, ignorance, and wretchedness* may be perpetuated, and its benefits happily extended to every possible subject, is, it is conceived, of no trifling consequence to society collectively. To those who are or may be *born* deaf especially, and their immediate connections, it must be deemed invaluable.

If the cultivation of the human mind be the pursuit and end of philosophy; if the salvation of the soul be the use, object and glory of theology, divines and philosophers will at least give credit for the intention, which is always the best apology for the most indifferent performance.

To convince *the world* of the practicability of this extraordinary art *incredible* to many, and to endeavor to prevent its being lost, like many other arts, after having been brought to perfection; to excite the attention of the public to a plan which if the rational nature is superior to the animal, hath objects the most interesting and affecting, is the ultimate design of this publication.

Should this prove the means of *one* only of the human race, in whom "*the particle of the divinity*" is inherent, being raised from an humiliating, most melancholy state by nature, and added to the number of *conversable* and *happy* intellectual beings, not only the application it hath cost will be abundantly compensated for, but the hours expended herein will ever be considered amongst the most usefully employed, as well as the most important and valuable of those bestowed by Providence upon

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