

COMMENDATORY INTRODUCTION.

THIS little volume contains, in part, the substance of a popular lecture, somewhat modified and enlarged. On this account, its publication as a treatise may cause the writer to appear under some disadvantage, or his mode of treatment and style as somewhat unequal, or discrepant.

The most of the topics are recondite and philosophic, which require the plain and precise mode of treatment, while the oral and the popular justify the more diffusive and ambitious, which, to some ex-