

## PREFACE TO VOX OCULIS SUBJECTA.

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Politics and party views which, at this day, occupy and engross the minds of so many, have no place or share in this unambitious publication; of course, prejudices and resentments on that ground cannot be provoked.

A great part of this essay being obviously either *compilation and quotation, or narrative*; it must necessarily be apparent that literary fame cannot be its object.

It is neither an attempt at composition, nor at criticism; but without ostentation, hath its origin in the *simple* principles of sympathy and philanthropy.

The primary motive is an ardent solicitude that the benefits of an ingenious method, *new* in *extension* practice if not new in theory, of infinite importance to many individuals, may be universally realized.

Having myself *collaterally* experienced the ineffable satisfaction consequent on its practicability, I am urged by an impatience kindled by social affection, to communicate the consolation to *all* others who may *ever* be in the same predicament.

This although a secondary is not a small inducement.

The editor is not unapprised that several treatises have been published on this art, *in the last century*, by men of distinction in the literary world, viz.: Dr. *Amman* of Amsterdam, Dr. *John Wallis*, and Dr. *William Holder* (by the two former in *Latin*); and also by *Bulwer* in English. They are all now become rare books, and hardly to be met with, as he hath experienced. The subject is also touched upon in a late essay, entitled, "Elements of Speech," by *J. Herries* A. M., 1773.

Extracts from, or translations of, particular parts of each are inserted in the body of this; but neither of them had *alto-*