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PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

London. Sold by C. H. Belcher, Halifax.

THIS work is one of a series, called 'The Library of Entertaining Knowledge.' Each volume of this library is published under the superintendance of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, of which society, Henry Brougham, Esq.—now Lord Brougham—is Chairman, and Lord John Russel, Vice Chairman. It is a noble feature of our day, that the highest literary and professional characters of the country, employ their energies to direct the public mind in the path of useful science. Instead of being wrapt up in the pretended abstract nature of their studies, instead of being exalted on the vulgar stilts of purse or family pride,—they look upon the magnificent nature of the human mind as philosophers and as philanthropists, and feeling all men as brethren, they are eager to inform and improve all branches of the great family.

The Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties, forms a valuable subject for the mere purposes of interest and entertainment ; but when we consider the examples, warnings, and reproofs, which such a silent Monitor affords, to almost every reader, the value is increased tenfold. The work before us, selects from the scientific and literary records of every country, a body of examples, to show that the most unpropitious circumstances have been unable to conquer an ardent desire for the acquisition of knowledge ; from the collection, all living examples are excluded, elevations or attainments gained by chance or fortune are paid no attention, the work is purely devoted to the virtues of honourable and persevering industry.

We are apt to conceive that there are certain classes, to which