

I look at the importance of the subject that has engaged my attention, and feel a conviction of the purity of the motives which have induced me to develope the truth, with, also, a firm conviction that certain phenomena in light and vision could not be accounted for under either of the present existing theories; and that science in that department must remain stationary until a complete revolution in the theory of light and vision could be effected, I come to the resolution that nothing should deter me from endeavouring to add my mite to the improvement of science, by endeavouring to correct the numerous misunderstandings that abound in the minds of millions that are in extreme anxiety upon a subject that has never been satisfactorily explored or explained. When I take into consideration that where there is such an amount of learning and wealth, there must also be an amount of independence, and that in most instances it requires less labour to establish truth than it does to maintain errors; and also, that I believe there is in existence a class of persons, both wealthy and learned, whose whole aim is directed to philosophic pursuits, and whose ambition is to arrive at correct notions, and whose honour and integrity are only equalled by their disgust at mean actions. I therefore feel a consolation that the merits of this work are under better protection than were the works of Galileo and Copernicus in their days.