

## P R E F A C E .

---

IT is with extreme diffidence that I venture to lay before the public a book of philosophy on Light, Vision, and Colours.

Under all circumstances, a generous and enlightened public will speedily discern the merits or defects of a work submitted for their consideration, and an author may always expect a candid opinion will be given thereon; but, when I consider that the subject before me has occupied the consideration of the greatest talented philosophers the world ever produced, and that the opinions of those eminent persons have been sanctioned and recorded, and again and again confirmed by all the learned and intelligent communities in every country and kingdom throughout the world, without one dissenting voice; and that the opinions I have here expressed are in diametrical opposition to those I have before mentioned, it is only reasonable to anticipate an amount of opposition from those whose interests and prejudices are affected by improvements and strongly protected by wealth and talent. Under such circumstances, I find a greater demand upon my courage than I ever before experienced; but when, on the contrary,