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P R E F A C E.

HAVING concluded our First Volume, we would be deficient in gratitude did we not return thanks to the Public, in general, for the favourable reception our labours have experienced; and to those Scientific Gentlemen, in particular, who have assisted us with Communications, as well as Hints respecting the future conducting of the Work.

As the grand Object of it is to diffuse Philosophical Knowledge among every Class of Society, and to give the Public as early an Account as possible of every thing new or curious in the scientific World, both at Home and on the Continent, we flatter ourselves with the hope that the same liberal Patronage we have hitherto experienced will be continued; and that Scientific Men will afford us that Support and Assistance which they may think our Attempt entitled to. Whatever may be our future Success, no Exertions shall be wanting on our part to render the Work useful to Society, and especially to the Arts and Manufactures of Great Britain which, as is well known, have been much improved by the great Progress that has lately been made in various Branches of the Philosophical Sciences.