

tions in reading, writing, and many of the useful and ornamental branches of industry which are peculiar to the sex.

Religion is venerated in every quarter—Its temples, its humane, and benevolent institutions—Its monuments and memorandums in cities and countries are numerous. Historic paintings and pictures cover the walls, and the crosses by the way constantly lead the mind to devout reflections. It would be foreign from the design of this work to enter upon a detail of the peculiarities in the opinions and rites of the Catholic church, which we call superstitious. Many ingenious arguments are given for their faith and institutions. Protestants when they stripped the churches of historic scripture paintings, deprived themselves not only of the rich productions of eminent artists, but of valuable means for instruction. The animated canvas in Catholic countries, gives us more just and lively ideas of the nativity, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord, than can be afforded by the tongue or pen of the learned, nay, than by the language of scripture itself. That the painter has given us the scene in reality is not pretended, but as exact a representation of it as human ingenuity can devise. To this cus-