

And at the same time neglect not your mind but store it with all useful knowledge such as will fit you for all the duties of life and make you a pleasant and an agreeable companion, for it is, as Ruskin observes, "your duty to be accomplished," and the influence of woman on the hard rugged nature of man is full of power for good or evil. Woman may dress gaily, be favoured by nature with a pretty face, yet wanting mind, she is but a walking statue. On the other hand, when we meet with a woman not gifted with beauty but possessed of a mind stored full of valuable acquirements, we are pleased with her society and cease to feel that she is not handsome; the beauty of intellect supplies the deficiency; but when some favoured child of nature combines in herself physical, intellectual, and moral beauty, then may she be justly considered as the masterpiece of creation.

Let none foolishly say that it is useless to educate woman. We would have them so educated that if man wishes to retain his boasted superiority he will be forced to make more strenuous efforts to maintain it. There is too much in this world of the saying "that will do"; too much show for appearances sake, and too many "finish their education" when in fact it can scarcely be said to have been begun. They should ever bear in mind the maxim:

"Painful and slow to noble acts we rise
And long, long labours wait the glorious prize."

In no field of study are pleasanter paths to be found, or subject better adapted to woman's nature than the study of the beautiful. When guided by reason and religion it leads to life and virtue, but if we seek it out to minister to our sensual pleasures only, it leads to the opposite—sin and death.

The Creator has given to us a two-fold nature, spiritual and material, and for the proper development of the human race it is essential that both should be equally cultivated. If we disobey a moral or physical law we are punished; and the first great law of nature is to take care of the body, supplying it with healthful food. Destroy the physical powers and the intellectual faculties droop: and according to the division of labour, it is so arranged that the preparing or cooking of food devolves on woman, making it requisite for her to know how to "cook well;" and, with Ruskin, to this conclusion we must come, "that it is the duty of every woman to be pretty, to be accomplished, and to cook well."

The economy of the human frame and the means of preserving it in health and beauty, should form a part in the education of every young lady. She should be educated to avoid all absurd and pernicious fashions calculated to destroy health, for without health there can be no true beauty; and we look forward hopefully to the time when an art education will be extended to all ranks; when good taste will dictate our fashions in dress as well as other things, when a knowledge of the beautiful will be added to the useful, for how true is the saying:

"Each pleasing art gives softness to the mind
And by our studies are our lives refined."