

of Charles VII to the dignity becoming a powerful monarch, preserving thus the House of Valois from the loss of a throne, and France from the disgrace of subjection to a foreign power ;—that the beautiful and expressive eyes of the unfortunate G  neve, expressive at once of all the purity of her love and innocence, animated the valour and nerved the arm of her generous champion Ariodantes ; and that it was a woman who made a hero even of a Don Quixote. But enough, I trust, has been advanced to convince the most incredulous of the elevation of your sentiments and affections, and of the powerful effects which they produce on ours.

It is objected that you are not qualified to govern ; and cardinal Mazarine, adopting a maxim which is derived merely from the arrogance of man, adds, by way of displaying his wit on the subject, that a woman is always in danger of being governed by lovers incapable of governing even a brood of chickens. The fairest and best authenticated pages of history, of every age, give a direct contradiction to all