

glory to frame them in beauty, it certainly cannot be beneath us to respect and preserve the charms which we have received from his loving hand. To slight these gifts, is to despise the giver. He that has made the temple of our souls beautiful, certainly would not have us neglect the means of preserving that beauty. Every woman owes it, not only to herself, but to society, to be as beautiful and charming as she possibly can. The popular cant about the *beauty of the mind* as something which is inconsistent with, and in opposition to, the *beauty of the body*, is a superstition which cannot be for a moment entertained by any sound and rational mind. To despise the temple, is to insult its occupant. The divine intelligence which has planted the roses of beauty in the human cheeks, and lighted its fires in the eyes, has also intrusted us with a mission to multiply and increase these charms, as well as to develop and educate our intellects.

Let every woman feel, then, that, so far from doing wrong, she is in the pleasant ways of duty when she is studying how to develop and preserve the natural beauty of her body.

“There’s nothing ill can dwell in such a temple.

If the ill spirit have so fair a house,

Good things will strive to dwell with it.”

SHAKSPEARE.