

Let me say, in the third and last place, therefore, that the cultivation of the beautiful in woman does not consist in pedantry and affectation. Dress parade and the assumption of airs, by a woman, are disgusting, however personally beautiful she may be. There is nothing like the blush of modesty, graceful address, gentle demeanor, the flash of intelligence, the radiant smile of virtue, the sparkling robe of character, the evidence of good breeding and culture. There must not be any thing shoddy in beauty. Thank God for what he has done for you, and then—like a sculptor with chisel in hand, with an angel vision, before his marble block—transform the crudities of nature into shapes of beauty about both soul and body. Make the most of your natural gifts and graces. Add to that which is good, subtract from that which is vicious, divide that which is superfluous, and multiply the talents of virtue. You are nothing without beauty; but beauty without education is nothing. Your glory consists in the life of beauty—that beauty which is founded in the true, the good, and the useful. Shakespeare truly says,

O how much more does beauty beauteous seem,
By that sweet ornament which truth doth give!
The rose is fair, but fairer we it deem
For that sweet odor which doth in it live.

Ruffini has said: "Beauty is an exquisite flower, and its perfume is virtue." Indeed, Shakespeare sums up the whole truth of the subject when he says: "*Virtue is beauty.*" Be beautiful, therefore, as you are good and true, and remember that the most beautiful garment a woman ever wore is the robe of true religion. A godly woman is the brightest gem in the Saviour's crown, and no angels have ever so blessed and beau-