

Propriety

Propriety is to a woman what the great Roman critic says action is to the orator; it is the first the second and the third requisite. A woman may be knowing active and amusing; but without propriety she cannot be amiable. Propriety is the centre in which all the rings of duty and acquaintance meet. It is to character, what proportion is to figure, and grace to attitude.

It does not depend on any one perfection, but it is the result of general excellence. It shows itself by a regular, orderly, unobtrusive course, and never starts from its sober orbit into any splendid eccentricity; for it would be as harmful to