

the statements made by Mr. Ruskin follows naturally. "You may read all the books in the British Museum," he says, "and remain an uneducated illiterate person. But if you read ten pages of a good book carefully you are in some measure educated forever." The last statement is unquestionable but would it be possible for me to read at all widely, though carelessly, without obtaining some knowledge which would prevent my being called an illiterate person? In this connection a quotation is made from Lycidas and read letter by letter. Much is got out of the selection which is not apparent at first reading but how many even of those whom Mr. Ruskin considers thoroughly educated stop to digest each word of everything they read? Much that is written would not bear such reading. Most authors do not write with such close scrutiny of their work in view or many books would be left unwritten.

If we may judge from what Mr. Ruskin says in these lectures, we may infer that he is no utilitarian. "Your *one* conception of pleasure is to ride in railway carriages round the earth." This is rather a strong statement. Would Mr. Ruskin, then, have us to go back to the old-time stage-coach or further back and do our travelling on foot that we may not pollute the atmosphere with coal-smoke? Or has Mr. Ruskin "dipped into the future" and pictured the noiseless air-ships of the twentieth century or the electric travelling tubes of a century later?

Further on, we have a clever satire on the mockeries of the English Church. "You might sooner get lightning out of incense smoke than true passion out of modern English religion. Leave your Gothic windows to the property man and look after Lazarus at the door step. The true church is where one hand meets another helpfully." Ruskin is sincere and earnest in his religion.

A slight inconsistency may be noticed in one or two cases. In the earlier part of the lecture he says:—"We call ourselves a rich nation and yet we are filthy and foolish enough to thumb each others books in a circulating library." At the conclusion he hopes that national libraries may soon be established in all large cities for the use of the public. What is the difference between thumbing the books of a circulating library and those of a national library?

In the second lecture, Mr. Ruskin represents marriage as the sole object of a woman's life. She must be educated only that she may aid her husband. She must know everything that she knows accurately lest she may tease her husband by