

lighten the wearisome fardel of human ills. But the highest use of the library is the ethical one—"A good book," says Milton, "is the precious life blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up to a life beyond life." "We come then," says Ruskin, "to the great concourse of the Dead, not merely to know from them what is True, but chiefly to feel with them what is Righteous."

III. RELATION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE HIGH SCHOOLS.

I now come to a part of my subject which is perhaps not inappropriate, in view of our being for the first time the guests of the Provincial University. My criticisms will be frank, but I know our University authorities well enough to feel confident that they will accept these criticisms in the friendly spirit in which they are offered.

Matriculation Subjects and Standard.

The relation between the Universities and the High Schools is a most important one; for it concerns the character of the work in both, and, through them, the educational status of the Province. This relation involves, in particular, the matriculation examination and the courses for graduation in Arts.

I am, I know, expressing an opinion very generally held when I say that the present scheme of subjects and the present pass standard for matriculation are out of keeping with both the necessities of higher education and the capabilities of our secondary schools. On the question of subjects I do not intend to enlarge. As I shall point out later, the time has come, many of us believe, when the relation between our Universities and the High Schools should be remodelled. What the subjects shall then be will, of course, depend upon the issue.

No educationist, however, needs to be told that the percentage now prescribed on each matriculation paper, even when enforced, does not and cannot secure adequate preparation for University work. Every now and then University dignitaries say to me: "What is the matter with the High Schools? We are all the time getting matriculants ignorant of the elements of English, not to speak of the elements of the languages." Any High School principal can readily supply the answer. As long as the Universities set a low standard, so long will many enter without sufficient prepara-