

his name and consider his case as soon as one occurred.

"I'd like to commence right off," replied the man, "but I'm willing to wait. Here's my name, and the minute I get your letter I'll come down-a-flying. If you get me you don't get much style, but you get solid old common sense and genuine education. You won't see scholars playing hide-and-coop around the wood-box or playing marbles on the floor—no, you won't!"

And he went down stairs.—DETROIT FREE PRESS.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE.

A late number of the *Leisure Hour* gives an interesting account of the work done by the different Committees into which the London (Eng.) School Board is divided. These Committees are six, viz:—(1) Statistical, (2) Works, (3) By-laws, (4) School Management; (5) Finance, and (6) Industrial Schools.

With the first of these Committees all business is initiated. It is held responsible for every recommendation of fresh school accommodation. All London is blocked out into minute squares. The population of each of these is carefully detailed, the names of all children of school age recorded, and the deficiency in school accommodation marked. When the deficiency in any case is recognized as sufficient to warrant another school, then there are calculations about the exact spot on which to put down said school, so as to meet the convenience of the poor, to avoid trenching upon other schools, and to have the fees graduated according to the ability of the inhabitants. This Committee, then, is responsible for the adoption of existing schools, and the authorization of the purchase of freehold ground for new ones.

When a site has been fixed upon, the Works Committee comes into the field. This is responsible for the purchase and erection of school rooms, which is a very difficult and harrassing work; yet since the Act passed places have been provided by this Committee for 89,000 children. After the school-rooms are built, the Committee on By-laws takes charge of filling them with children. Of course there is the power of compelling attendance, but it is found that this power to be efficient must be very carefully and wisely exercised. The power is

not left by any means as a dead letter. In one half year 40,000 notices were issued, and 5,480 parents served with summonses. In 2,000 of these cases fines were inflicted, while the rest of the parents sent their children to school. The operations of the By-law Committee cost, for one thing and another, £20,000.

The School Managing Committee has the entire control of all the schools—appointing teachers, arranging the programme, &c., &c. The Industrial School Committee looks after the "strays and waifs;" while the Finance Committee conducts all the monetary work of the Board. Every item to be paid must first come before this Committee, and be recommended by the Board before it can be paid. The accounts are audited every half year, and it is said the audit takes up two months' time.

All this involves an enormous amount of work, Committees and sub-committees are meeting every day, and sitting from one to six hours. Then the Board meets every Wednesday, and generally has a long seditant. Since even this Board was instituted, a prayer-meeting has been voluntarily held among the members before each Board meeting. It is very noticeable that all this work is done cheerfully and freely by men of position and character, to whom every minute of the business day is valuable. Benevolent effort on this extensive scale must in due time tell for good upon the rising generation.—GLOBE.

THE TEACHER MUST STEADILY AND CONSTANTLY IMPROVE.

There is no temptation so great to the hard working teacher as to remain on the very spot where he has earned his certificate. That attests his ability to instruct. He has toiled to obtain it, and now holds it as a key to a position. His efforts have been not for the knowledge, the strength, the enlarged views, but for the certificate that he is qualified as an instructor. There is many a man who looks back to a day when he was admitted as a member of our noble profession and grounds his fitness wholly upon the successful examination he then passed.

It is not to press any more labor on these tried shoulders that we beg to say a few earnest words against contentment with past achievements. It is for encouragement and relief. It is to show you that if your bur-