

ber of syllables they contain, as mane, dis, trio, and polysyllables. No dictionary or spelling book must be allowed, but when their own resources are exhausted, they may be allowed to pick out from their reading lessons those beginning with the letter required. This effort at research they will find both profitable and pleasant.

2. Etymological.—Instead of giving the prefixes and affixes as a task to be committed to memory, let the children be given one or two, such as con. and com., and find as many words as they can beginning with them, and continue doing so till all that are in use are familiar to them. Do the same with the affixes; with both encourage the giving of the literal meaning of words, so as easily to perceive their structure and significance.

3. Paraphrastic.—There are two exercises under this heading which are similar—substitution and paraphrase. The former of these is the process of writing in the place of one word or phrase, another of the same or similar meaning. In choosing words for this purpose, the following should be observed:—1st. The exact meaning of words should be clearly perceived, and if more than one is required for substitution, the fewest number should be chosen. 2nd. Use such words as will be easiest understood. 3rd. Avoid all vulgar and slang phrases. Here it may be noted that no book will yield such an abundance of rich material for this exercise as the Bible in common use.

EXAMPLE.

He entered into one of the ships which was Simon's, and prayed that he would thrust out a little from the land, and He sat down and taught the people out of the ship.

Jesus went on board a fishing vessel belonging to Simon Peter, and asked him to push it out to a short distance from the shore. He then assumed a sitting posture in it, and preached to the people who were on the beach.

To give greater facility and effect to this exercise, in addition to finding synonyms, let the children be occasionally engaged also in stating their antonyms, as black, white, hard, soft, low, high, &c.

PARAPHRASING.

Paraphrasing is similar to substitution, but is more difficult to execute. In substitution, simple words or phrases are changed