

careless, and thereby much of the interest will soon die out. And last, but not least, is the study of the lesson an important item in the filling up of spare time. A young child should have no study out of school, unless it be by its own wish, and a teacher who endeavors to teach her pupils *how* to study, has done for them that which none can too highly appreciate.

I might describe other methods which I have seen used, but these I think are the most practicable, and therefore the best. Many of the teachers present will doubtless have tried these means, but it is my earnest hope, that these few directions may be of some use to those who are about to enter the profession or, have only done so recently. I shall be much pleased if any teachers present who use other methods will give us the benefit of their experience; for it is only by exchange of ideas that we can best succeed as teachers.

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### GERMAN COMMON SCHOOLS.

By D. C. MACDONALD.

School-visiting in Berlin, Prussia, is not like school-visiting in this country. Here the matronly visitor puts on her spectacles, takes her knitting work in her hand, steps over to the school, knocks, walks in, and drops into the offered chair as easily and informally as if she were taking her place at the sitting-room stove at home. Over here such a visit requires a formal permit, as much as it does to visit the arsenal or any of the public departments. The writer stepped one day into the great pile of brick and blue stone which forms the City Hall of the Paris of the Spree, hunted up the office of Public Instruction and made his request for a permit to visit one of the city schools, at the same time stating his nationality and presenting his card of membership in the University of Leipsic. The necessary paper was made out at once and gave every facility for inspecting one of the city common schools in all its departments. The building was put up in the plainest style. The teachers are all considered to be government officers, and an official residence is provided in the building for the principal and his family.

The first room to be observed is naturally that of the primary scholars. Here forty or fifty children were seated behind desks on benches, wrestling and wriggling as only pickaninnies can.