

of his suit without fear of being drowned, as long as he stood erect; for as long as air was supplied by the air pump, the water could not reach his mouth. In deep water the pressure is very great, and usually a diver can descend as deep as he can stand the pressure. Divers seldom descend over one hundred and seventy feet, and rarely as deep as that. Under the water the ears feel stopped up, but sometimes we can make ourselves understood by putting two helmets together and shouting, but then it sounds no louder than an ordinary whisper. A man who went down for the first time would be likely to signal to come up after feeling the pressure in the ears, which is very unpleasant until you are used to it."

"How about the fish; do they ever molest you?"

"Very seldom. You see, we make it a rule not to disturb them. We know that they are in their element and we are not in ours. As for sharks, we don't care for them. They are cowardly and easily frightened off. We are much more afraid of the baricoots, a surface fish with teeth three inches long. Talk about fish—why one can't have any conception of them until he has been under the water and seen them of all sizes and colors of the rainbow. The noise by a school of fish sounds under water like the rumbling of thunder."

"One of the greatest curiosities in this line was the Jew-fish I encountered when diving on the coast of Venezuela. These fish are from six to fifteen feet in length, and have a large mouth with small teeth. The Jew-fish have a great deal of curiosity, and used to eye us while we were at work. We were a little afraid of them at first, but found that they would not harm us. I suppose you have heard of the electric eel, which has the power to give a shock equal to any battery. When we were diving at the West Indies, one of our divers received a severe shock from an electric eel, and for a time he seemed paralyzed. Mules and other animals, when fording streams in that country, often receive a shock."

"Is it dark under water?"

"That depends upon how clear the water is. I have been down twenty fathoms, where I could see to read the finest print, and I have been down ten feet where you could not see your hand before you. Before we see a body or an object under the water, we always see the shadow first."

"How about the bottom of the ocean?"

"In many places it is beautiful especially where the coral reefs are. Coral looks like a forest of trees that had been cut down. I have seen coral as large as the stump of any tree you ever saw, with enormous limbs running downward, the trunk and branches being of the purest white coral. I have encountered a coral reef after descending three fathoms, and a bottom of pure white sand after descending two fathoms more."

SELECTIONS FOR MEMORIZING.

The systematic practice of memorizing brief selections from the best authors was first introduced by Hon. J. B. Peaslee, Superintendent of Schools in Cincinnati. It is one of the most important, and may be made one of the most interesting, of school exercises. The selections are taught in school as a part of the opening exercises, and form no part of the home work of the pupils. One selection is taught each week; two or four lines being taught at a time, so that only a very short time is spent each day.

The benefits resulting from the exercise are:

1. The memory is cultivated.
2. The moral nature is developed.
3. A large store of choice selections are fixed in the minds of the pupils.
4. Composition is improved; the vocabularies of the pupils are enriched, they become acquainted with the language used by the best writers, and learn to use these words in their most appropriate connection.
5. Expressive reading is taught in the most practical way possible.

METHOD OF TEACHING THE SELECTIONS.

1. One line is written on the board by the teacher, and read by him distinctly, with emphasis rather overstrained, and pauses marked too distinctly.
2. The pupils repeat the line, imitating the teacher.

3. The teacher calls special attention to those parts of the line where the pupils have failed to imitate him accurately, and repeats the whole line, which is again repeated by the class. This is continued until the class recites the line correctly simultaneously.

4. A few individual pupils may then be called upon to recite the line.

5. The other lines are taught in a similar way. After each additional line is taught, the whole is recited from the beginning.

FIFTH BOOK CLASSES.

1.

Rouse to some work of high and holy love,
And thou an angel's happiness shalt know—
Shalt bless the earth while in the world above:
The good begun by thee shall onward flow
In many a branching stream, and wider grow;
The seed, that in those few and fleeting hours,
Thy hands unseparating and unwearied sow,
Shall deck thy grave with amaranthine flowers,
And yield thee fruits divine in heaven's immortal bowers.—O. Wilcox.

2.

When'er a noble deed is wrought,
When'er is spoken a noble thought,
Our hearts in glad surprise
To higher levels rise.
The tidal ways of deeper souls
Into our inmost being rolls,
And lifts us unawares
Out of all meaner cares.—Longfellow.

3.

Be wise to-day; 'tis madness to defer;
Next day the fatal precedent will plead;
Thus on, till wisdom is pushed out of life.
Procrastination is the thief of time;
Year after year it steals, till all are fled,
And to the mercies of a moment leaves
The vast concerns of an eternal scene.—Young.

4.

The rose which in the sun's bright rays
Might soon have drooped and perished,
With grateful scent the shower repays
By which its life is cherished:
And thus have o'en the young in years
Found flowers within that flourish
And yield a fragrance fed by tears,
That sunshine could not nourish.—Bernard Barton.

FOURTH BOOK CLASSES.

1.

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice,
Which is more than liberty.
For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.—F. W. Faber.

2.

We rise by things that are 'neath our feet;
By what we have mastered of good and gain;
By the pride deposed and the passion slain,
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet.

I count this thing to be grandly true,
That a noble deed is a step toward God,
Lifting the soul from the common sod
To a purer air and a broader view.—J. G. Holland.

3.

One by one the sands are flowing,
One by one the moments fall;
Some are coming, some are going;
Do not strive to grasp them all.