

PREFACE.

This method, which was introduced with many misgivings, has met with unexpected and most gratifying success, winning the entire approval of teachers, principals and school authorities.

It will not be questioned, I think, that the Oral Lessons have contributed not a little to the accomplishment of this result. They are the direct outcome of a successful experiment, covering a period of ten years, and representing the most extensive application of the Natural Method that has ever been attempted in public schools. The Teachers' Manual, which is their distinguishing feature, has been found to be a most valuable adjunct, greatly facilitating the use of the method in public schools, where the work must be undertaken by teachers who are not specialists in the subject and where the personnel of the teaching staff is constantly changing.

The Oral Lessons have been received with much favour by the teachers who have used them in this city during the last five years. I venture to think that they will be found equally useful elsewhere, especially in the Province of Quebec, where the demands for more serviceable results in this branch of study have long claimed a more effectual recognition.

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