

THE
EDUCATIONAL RECORD
OF THE
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1898.

VOL. XVIII.

Articles: Original and Selected.

A TEACHER WHO TAUGHT.

CYRIL NORFOLK, in *School Journal*.

I once studied history for a year under a teacher who knew how to teach. The topic was general history, and the teacher devoted fifty minutes a day, four days in the week, to making thirty-five pupils in a country high school realize that a life-time is too short for the learning of much history; and yet that great pleasure and profit may accrue from even a slight understanding of it. The prescribed text-book was "Swinton's Outlines of History," and we always learned three or four pages at a time as a ground-work for our lesson.

Assyrian and early Egyptian history we must have slighted. And yet, she made so much of an impression that, after fifteen years, when I spent some hours among the specimens of Assyrian art in the Louvre, very definite notions came to me concerning the reasons for its excellence and for its limitations, notions which I found, upon consulting the proper authorities, were quite correct. (I am reasonably certain that none of my studies in those fifteen years have touched upon Assyrian art.)

When we were ready to begin the history of Greece, Miss Thompson read aloud from Bulfinch's "Age of Fable," throughout the history period, the first day. She was a charming reader, and, moreover, an exceedingly rapid one, so she covered considerable ground in fifty minutes.