

THE
EDUCATIONAL RECORD
OF THE
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

No. 1.

JANUARY, 1889.

VOL. IX.

Articles: Original and Selected.

THE TONIC SOL-FA METHOD.*

I take it for granted that all present, through some source or other, are acquainted with the Tonic Sol-Fa Method. I therefore purpose devoting the limited time at my disposal this afternoon to suggestions on the teaching of the system.

I believe that copies of the music schedule of the Montreal Protestant schools are in your hands; and, as that contains the united opinions of Mr. Dawson and myself, I need not trespass on your patience by suggesting a plan of work for the various school grades. It is, of course, not to be expected that this schedule can be carried out in the first, or even the second year; it will take several years of earnest labour, before such a scheme can be in full working order. But, in introducing the method into a school, it is as well to map out the work from the first, and thus have the goal in view.

Before touching on the subject itself, there are a few things I wish to impress on those about to commence to teach the method.

1. Teach the thing before the sign.
2. Never sing *with* your pupils.

* A paper read before the Waterloo Convention by Mr. W. E. Smith of the Montreal Schools.