THE

EDUCATIONAL RECORD

OF THE

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

No. 5.

MAY, 1898.

VOL. XIX.

Articles: Original and Selected.

SCHOOLHOUSE CONSTRUCTION.

BY A. H. KIRCHNER, ARCHITECT, ST. LOUIS, MO.

To secure a perfect sanitary, useful, convenient, practical, and lastly, ornamental success in school building, deserves the serious attention of every right-minded architect and every public-spirited man connected with the school system.

The first move is the selection of a lot for the building. No sooner does the public find out that a lot is to be selected for this purpose than every real estate agent in town, every owner of a lot—good, bad, or indifferent—begins a wild scramble to make a deal. Each member is besieged by every friend or relative he ever possessed, until he finds himself, unless a man of rare discretion and jndgment, confused and sometimes even forced to favour some sink-hole unfit for any building purpose, let alone a school.

The lot should by all means be high, for proper drainage; the neighbourhood should be moral; it should be free from proximity to noisy manufacturing interests, from the dangers of steam and electric cars, from disease-breeding dairies and stagnant ponds.

It should be located on properly finished streets, and should be built in the centre of a spacious lot, leaving room thereby for trees and other attractive improvements. The first floor of the school building should be at least five feet