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ON THE INSPECTION OF COMMON SCHOOLS.

EDUCATION OFFICE, *Toronto*, 27th April, 1848.

SIR :

On the all-important subject of School Inspection, I am anxious to furnish to District Superintendents and Visitors of Common Schools the best suggestions.

As you have for many years been an Inspector of Schools in Ireland, and subsequently the Head-Inspector of the Inspectors themselves, I should be glad to be favoured, for insertion in the *Journal of Education*, with any observations which you may think proper to make on the Inspection of Schools.

I have the honour to be, SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

E. RYERSON.

T. J. ROBERTSON, ESQUIRE,

Head-Master of the Normal School for Upper Canada.

NORMAL SCHOOL, *Toronto*, May 7th, 1848.

SIR :

In accordance with the request contained in your note of the 27th ult., I proceed to offer a few observations, dictated by long experience, on the necessity and nature of School Inspection, and the best method of exercising it.

Among the various important subjects of consideration occupying the attention of the civilized portion of mankind, during the last quarter of a century, few have attained a greater pre-eminence in public estimation than national education, and the fact that so many enlightened governments and able and learned individuals have directed their attention to it, has necessarily rendered it a subject of deep and serious contemplation to every one anxious for the welfare of the State or the future prospects of his family.

The connexion of popular education with the government of the state, and the advantages to be derived in a free country from rendering it an object of state policy and a question to be dealt with by a representative legislature,