

Dominion Medical Monthly

And Ontario Medical Journal

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COMMENT FROM MONTH TO MONTH

Has Medical Inspection of Schools in Toronto, under the Board of Education, had a fall? It has not been able to commence to prevent one of the common, ordinary, every-day, communicable diseases, measles—and to prevent communicable diseases amongst school children was one of its strongest suits. The detection of defective teeth, adenoids, enlarged tonsils, etc., is only of secondary importance to the detection of the communicable diseases.

Whilst the death rate has not been great, it has yet been considerable—and measles has possibilities sometimes in a very large death rate. Recently in the County of Durham, England, there has been an epidemic of measles of very wide extent with over 1,000 deaths. Had the present epidemic been of either diphtheria or scarlet fever, or smallpox, the people would have been up in arms. At the present time they are not sufficiently seized of the dangers of measles; but when it is properly understood that measles carries with it hidden dangers, laughing and scoffing at that hitherto neglected disease on the part of everybody will be turned to concern and anxiety.

Times have changed. A wave of economy is creeping over the community. When it becomes a question of the pocket and the