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## *Original Contributions.*

### THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

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THE present-day requirements as to compulsory education very naturally lead parents to require from the state or municipality some general medical supervision or inspection of their children who commingle daily, often to the number of several hundreds, in our schools. That this demand has not been made before may be accounted for by the fact that in this province we have not had those aggregations of vice, poverty, unsanitary housing, child labor, etc., which prevail in such large centres as New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston on this continent, and in a still more marked degree in Europe, where in its densely populated countries these difficulties are both urban and rural.

Indeed, in some of the cities of England the practice now prevails of giving to the children of the poorer class in attendance at the schools a mid-day meal, of such a character as will nourish their famishing bodies, which are also under medical inspection, and when necessary are also attended by specially qualified visiting nurses.

While the necessity for a medical inspection of our school children is not as apparent as in other countries, yet I am of the opinion that much good can be done along this line.

If the greatest good is to accrue to the state from such work, then it must be provincial and must be worked out on some general plan.