

It is an undoubted fact that Toronto's resources are greater for building up a mighty centre of commerce than those of any other community on the great chain of Lakes. With prospects of a future so prodigious, we have no hesitation in saying that Toronto is destined eventually to become the Chicago of Ontario. Already she stands as a type of the modern commercial city, exhibiting a vigorous and well developed municipal life; meeting questions of industrial and commercial interest with prompt and intelligent consideration.

It is pretty evident that the city is rapidly growing north, and we fully believe that the suburbs of Toronto must extend in that direction. The population has trebled in ten years; why should it not double in the next ten? The *World* of April 19th, 1890, gives it that "Toronto has increased in population for the last ten years at the rate of about 12,000 a year, and is increasing now at an accelerated proportion; some place must be found for these people to live; they won't object to the suburbs providing some of those places. Toronto's population increased 20,000 last year, not counting the increase by the annexation of Parkdale. At twenty-five persons to the acre, which is about the average, 800 acres additional would be necessary to give sites for homes for this one year's increase." With such a rapid growth in numbers, there must of necessity be a corresponding extension in area.

Although it has been said that the city proper is capable of sustaining a population of 1,000,000 we very much doubt whether this could be accomplished without excessive over-crowding, resulting in a state of things similar to those under which Glasgow suffered some years ago. We quote Mr. Albert Shaw's article in the *Century Magazine* for March, 1890. "Originally the 'closes' and lanes of the city were not at all objectionable. The houses were of moderate height, and unbuilt spaces were attached to many of the dwellings, and promoted ventilation; now, however, in those localities almost every spare inch of ground has been built upon, until room cannot be