

# Canada Medical Journal.

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The last number of this journal contained an article headed "The Lungs of Cities," a subject of all importance in a sanitary point, and one which having a public bearing is in all earnestness recommended to the consideration of our City Council. The question of the desirableness of a park has been mooted, and we trust the scheme will be carried through with public spirit, having in view the general good of the entire city, without reference to those sectional differences, which appear to divide the councils of our corporation.

What is good for the eastern section of the city is equally necessary for the west. It is in every way, therefore, desirable that no contracted views shall guide those chosen for the work in selecting a proper site, and that the saving of a few hundred pounds will not have any weight in obtaining suitable and sufficiently extensive grounds for this purpose.

It should be borne in mind that this is a matter which will affect the comfort and healthfulness of our city; it is to be hoped, therefore, that no narrow-minded policy will be adopted in a matter which will be judged of by coming generations. In connection with the subject of pure air, we propose to say a few words on the pernicious system of overcrowding buildings. It is the custom here as elsewhere to cover every patch of ground with houses. Persons with small means acquire a piece of ground and as a matter of speculation cover every inch with dwellings, dwellings of such a class that no person who can do otherwise would occupy them. These wretched tenements are forced upon the poor man at a rental considerably greater in proportion than what is paid by his more fortunate neighbor, who, from having larger means, can afford greater luxuries in the way of house accommodation. The system of overcrowding dwellings is exceedingly pernicious; it acts upon the air and healthfulness of entire districts, so that the necessities of the poor affect the comfort and safety of the rich. This is no idle theory, but one capable of demonstration, to any person of ordinary intelligence. In passing through