

It has been suggested that the Plains of Abraham should be turned out into an international park. Dr. J. M. Harper, of Quebec, has set forth that proposition lately in the *Toronto Mail and Empire*.

“The moving of the waters, he says, which has drawn the attention of Canadians to the possible disaster of having the Plains of Abraham submerged in the present progressiveness of the city of Quebec has much or little in it as a public movement, according to the standpoint from which it may be viewed. If the intersecting of a portion of the famous battlefield (which has for so many years somewhat erroneously taken to itself the name of Plains of Abraham) with streets and building lots, and the paraphernalia of country residences, is to be taken as a serious disaster, then such a disaster has already befallen the Plains of Abraham, since much of the grounds where the shock of the battle and the final rout took place has already been intersected with streets and partly built upon. And as far as calling such an extension of the city of Quebec a desecration, there may be much more serious desecrations than that in some of the gatherings at present tolerated on the grounds referred to, and about which there never has been a word said by clergyman or historian. But disaster or no disaster, desecration or no desecration, any enterprise that would lead to the adornment of this portion of the Ancient Capital in commemoration of the great quarrel between Great Britain and France—in commemoration of the peace that had for its object the blending of French and English-Canadians into one people, one federation, one nation—cannot but be worthy of commendation.

“An effort was made some years ago to adorn as a city park the large field so long known as the Plains of Abraham, but the undertaking failed to mature, possibly on account of the expense involved; and, as I have said in writing elsewhere about this matter, unless a wider scope be given to any future enterprise in this direction, it is more than likely that nothing will again come of it. In the hope that something will be done, and that immediately, I would suggest that