# QGIS Application - Bug report #19956
# Update SQL layer results in invalid SQL expression

2018-09-26 02:32 PM - Lars Kellogg-Stedman

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Status:** | Closed | | | |
| **Priority:** | Normal | | | |
| **Assignee:** | Alessandro Pasotti | | | |
| **Category:** | DB Manager | | | |
| **Affected QGIS version:** | 3.3(master) | **Regression?:** | No | |
| **Operating System:** | | **Easy fix?:** | No | |
| **Pull Request or Patch supplied:** | Yes | **Resolution:** | | |
| **Crashes QGIS or corrupts data:** | No | **Copied to github as #:** | 27778 | |

**Description**

It looks like the fix for #19843 resulted in a new problem.

With revision 208571a, selecting "Update SQL Layer..." still produces a database error, although a slightly different one:

near "(": syntax error

And instead of treating the existing query as a table name, it is now trying to surround the entire expression with parentheses:

(select ... from ...)

This appears to be an artifact of how the query expression is stored; looking at the layer source, I see:

dbname='lic.db' table="(select ... from ...)" (geom) sql=

Those parentheses result in the syntax error when trying to execute the expression in the DB manager.

**Associated revisions**

**Revision 94ded32f - 2018-09-27 08:01 AM - Alessandro Pasotti**

[db-manager] Allow multiline filters in sql window

Fixes #19956 - Update SQL layer results in invalid SQL expression

**History**

**#1 - 2018-09-26 02:45 PM - Alessandro Pasotti**

*- Assignee set to Alessandro Pasotti*

**#2 - 2018-09-26 02:47 PM - Alessandro Pasotti**

To be sure I can reproduce exactly your scenario, can you please describe the steps starting from an unfiltered layer?

**#3 - 2018-09-26 06:59 PM - Lars Kellogg-Stedman**

Sure.

1. I started with the MASSGIS TOWNS_POLY.shp dataset from [https://docs.digital.mass.gov/dataset/massgis-data-community-boundaries-towns](https://docs.digital.mass.gov/dataset/massgis-data-community-boundaries-towns)

2. I opened this shapefile in QGIS and saved it as a Spatialite datasource

3. I used SpatialLite -> New Connection to open the resulting data source

4. I double clicked on the "towns" table to add it to the project

5. I selected "Update SQL Layer..." after right clicking on the "towns" layer

6. I updated the query to look like:

    SELECT b.town as town, b.town_id as town_id, b.geometry as geometry

    FROM

    "towns" as a

    join "towns" as b on b.town = 'AMHERST' or st_touches(a.geometry, b.geometry)

    where

    a.town = 'AMHERST'


7. I selected "Update" and closed the database manager

8. I once again selected "Update SQL Layer..." from the layer menu.

9. This resulted in the syntax error, and the query now looks like:

    (SELECT b.town as town, b.town_id as town_id, b.geometry as geometry

    FROM

    "towns" as a

    join "towns" as b on b.town = 'AMHERST' or st_touches(a.geometry, b.geometry)

    where a.town = 'AMHERST'


    )



I've noticed something interesting: if I keep the entire sql expression on a single line like this:

    SELECT b.town as town, b.town_id as town_id, b.geometry as geometry FROM "towns" as a join "towns" as b on b.town = 'AMHERST' or
    st_touches(a.geometry, b.geometry) where a.town = 'AMHERST'


...then I don't get the error when subsequently editing it, and it never gets those extra parentheses.


**#4 - 2018-09-27 07:30 AM - Alessandro Pasotti**

Thanks for the information!
I think I know where's the issue, working on it today.


**#5 - 2018-09-27 08:31 AM - Alessandro Pasotti**
- *Status changed from Open to In Progress*
- *Pull Request or Patch supplied changed from No to Yes*


https://github.com/qgis/QGIS/pull/8037


**#6 - 2018-09-27 09:18 AM - Anonymous**
- *% Done changed from 0 to 100*
- *Status changed from In Progress to Closed*

Applied in changeset commit:qgis|94ded32f4ee548c3fbc798b2fd81fd81c8ca11bf.