

the belief that the new scheme was to be a benefit instead of a curse to the State. The act is entitled "An act to increase the revenues of the State, and to authorize the incorporation of the Louisiana State Lottery Co., and to repeal certain acts now in force." The act gave to certain persons named authority to organize a corporation "to protect the State against the great losses heretofore incurred in sending large amounts of money to foreign countries for the purchase of lottery tickets, to establish a solvent home institution, and to insure perfect fairness and justice in the distribution of prizes." The capital stock was fixed at \$1,000,000, in shares of \$100 each. The constitution adopted in 1879 or 1880 recognized the lottery charter as a contract with the State, and that view of it has been held by the United States Supreme Court. A man named Morris owns a large majority of the lottery stock, and has grown to be a multi-millionaire.

The Louisiana State Lottery began its career in 1868. The legislature, in passing the Act creating it, exacted a bonus of \$40,000 a year—a mere bagatelle compared with the enormous profits of the concern—and gave it a monopoly of the lottery business by prohibiting within the State the sale of tickets of the Havana or any other foreign lottery. This prohibition was never enforced, and there was little need of it. The home concern proved far more seductive than the others. All the same, the prohibitive Act shows a State in the light of protecting sin within its own borders, and reserving to itself the exclusive right to demoralize its own citizens. Like a huge octopus, this lottery has waxed fat at the expense of the material prosperity of the people. The tentacles of this gigantic devil-fish have sucked the blood of industry and thrift. The petty tax of \$40,000 which the lottery pays annually for the privilege of making millions, is devoted by the State, half toward the support of the Charity Hospital—the largest free hospital in America—and half to the public school fund. O Charity, what infamies are committed in thy name!

The Louisiana Lottery, from the start, has been managed with consummate skill as a business enterprise. We are told that its agents are required to obey the very letter of all regulations. "It has never postponed a drawing or scaled down a prize. In short, it has adopted every possible means to win the confidence and patronage of the people. It has succeeded in a remarkable degree, to the great misfortune of the public. Realizing that many disappointed ticket-holders would naturally charge unfairness in the drawings, the company hit upon a very effective method of disarming such criticism. It engaged General G. T. Beauregard and General Jubal A. Early to superintend every monthly drawing and attest its fairness. This was a sharp move, and the salaries of the gentlemen, said to be \$25,000 per annum each, could scarcely have been more productively spent."

The following table gives a fair idea of the annual business done by this gigantic lottery:

Number of drawings per annum.	Number of tickets printed.	Price.	Value of tickets sold.
2 Semi-annual...	200,000	\$40	\$ 5,600,000
10 Monthly	1,000,000	20	13,000,000
318 Daily (including policy shops)	21,900,000	25 cts. to \$1	1,320,000
Total.....	22,100,000		\$19,920,000

Number of drawings per annum.	Amount paid in prizes.	Paid for salaries and commissions.	Net profits.
2 Semi-annual.....	3,080,000	\$ 600,000	\$1,920,000
10 Monthly..	7,160,000	1,200,000	4,660,000

318 Daily (including policy shops).. 892,000 198,000 230,000

Total....\$11,122,000 \$1,998,000 \$6,800,000

It will be seen that, even if the lottery is conducted with perfect fairness, as it is claimed, which many people doubt, and after making liberal allowance for unsold tickets, the scheme is enormously profitable. Since its incorporation, the lottery, it is reported, has sold tickets to the value of \$168,000,000, paid \$92,400,000 in prizes and \$16,000,000 in commissions. Its stock for years has paid an annual dividend of eighty-five per cent. on its par value, and is quoted on the market at 900.

"The Louisiana Lottery is, as has often been said, stronger than any bank in the South. Any Southern bank will cash its prizes at sight, and the bank officials, almost without exception, will defend the lottery as a great and beneficial institution. The terrible and far-reaching influence of this gigantic swindle is shown by the fact that it has displaced all savings banks in Louisiana. People no longer put their dimes and quarters in a savings bank; they buy lottery tickets. One after another the savings banks of the State closed their doors. Everybody in New Orleans buys lottery tickets each month as regularly as he pays his rent or any other financial obligation. The demoralization caused by this huge fraud is terrible to contemplate, and all honest, self-respecting, and patriotic citizens may well shudder at the thought of the octopus being allowed to continue its sway for another quarter of a century. The lottery's franchise has two more years to run. Strenuous efforts are now being made to extend its charter for another twenty-five years, and so powerful is the lottery influence that many fear that the attempt will be successful. It is, nevertheless, thoroughly alarmed, and is leaving no stone unturned in order to win. It has promised, if its charter is renewed, to pay the entire debt of the State, \$12,000,000." * * A plausible purpose, truly, and likely to command adhesion from many who do not stop to consider that it is not permitted to do evil that good may come.

A USEFUL LIFE.

The death on Thursday, last week, of Mr. Robert Hay, removes from the streets of Toronto a familiar face and figure. It takes away one who had lived a good life as well as a long one—he was in his 83rd year—who had been concerned in building up the interests of this province and of this city, and who commanded respect and liking wherever he was known. Mr. Hay was born in Scotland, near Perth, in 1808, and came to Toronto in the year 1831. Three or four years after that date he became a partner in the firm of Jacques & Hay, just formed for the manufacture of furniture, and for almost fifty years he was actively connected with and largely contributed to make its excellent reputation over the continent. Mr. Jacques retired from the business in 1870, but the firm was continued as R. Hay & Co. till 1885, when Mr. Hay retired from active business and gave his attention to his farm at Sunnidale. In politics Mr. Hay was in early life a Baldwin Reformer, but favored the National Policy, and was returned to Parliament for Centre Toronto at the general election in 1878, defeating the late Senator Macdonald. He held the seat till 1886, when he retired. A man of simple tastes and habits, of great industry and perseverance, he was also distinguished for integrity and

independence. In admirable words Principal Grant summarizes his character in the funeral address delivered over his remains. Some of these beautiful and true words we may give:

"He has left a legacy to each of us, and to the whole country—the memory of a pure and upright life, of a tender heart, of a thousand unselfish deeds hidden from the world, and of a sturdy faith in the elementary virtues—economy, industry, and sobriety, love of family, love of country, and love of humanity. These make up 'an honest man, the noblest work of God.'

"He did not talk about religion; he did what is better—practised it. He practised that true religion which St. James describes: 'Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this—to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world'; that religion which St. John describes as 'He that loveth is born of God, and he that hateth his brother is a murderer'; that religion which St. Paul sets before us in his description of charity. A verse of our paraphrase of that chapter was a favorite of his—'Love glows with social tenderness and feels for all mankind.' 'That is my religion,' he used to say. The memories of such men should be cherished. They are the men who make a country great, for it is righteousness which exalteth a nation, while sin is the reproach of any people."

The body of the deceased gentleman was borne to the hearse by Messrs. John Kay, Gordon Brown, A. T. Fulton, James Beatty, Q.C., Robert Gilmour, J. Buchan, and J. C. Copp, all of this city, and Mr. John Stewart, of Hamilton.

BRITISH COLUMBIA BOARD OF TRADE.

The annual meeting of the British Columbia Board of Trade was held on the 11th July, in board room, Bank of B.C. building, Mr. Robt Ward, president, in the chair, and about twenty gentlemen present. A letter was submitted, and referred to the incoming council, from Mr. John Ormston, of Galashiels, Scotland, inquiring as to the prospects of establishing a woollen factory either in Victoria or some other part of the province, and what bonus, if any, might be expected.

The report, submitted by the president, gave the total membership of the Board as 99. It had held four general and two special meetings during the year, and its council had held thirteen meetings. The present is the eleventh annual report, and it is strong in favor of the use of the United States market, and the settlement of difficulties between that country and ours.

Reference is made to the efforts put forth by the body to secure for Victoria the advantages to which she is entitled as the fifth revenue-producing port of the Dominion, and as a point of call by the newly subsidised steamships. To memorials sent the Imperial and Dominion Governments, a final reply came from the former that as the contract had been signed, the matter could not be re-opened. "The tenor of the communication received from the Imperial authorities is surprising and disappointing." The present system of mail and telegraph communication, it is justly declared, "can by no means be considered satisfactory, particularly as regards the want of an auxiliary line between this province and the United States, to the establishment of which the Dominion Government have for a long time objected." The Board insists, how-