

that has actuated her for years, viz.: that the end justifies to a greater or less extent the means, that sin may be overlooked, if thereby the interests of the church be promoted. But in many cases Protestants are worse, for while condemning the sin they practice it.

One feature of multitudes of entertainments that are got up to raise money, is the lottery, in one form or another, a species of gambling that is productive of more real evil than the gaming table, because clad in robes of respectability, and likely to entrap the unwary and educate them for the grosser forms of gambling by creating that mad thirst for winning money by games of chance which has ruined so many for time and eternity.

If a man were to advertize a lottery, offering prizes at so much per chance, and were to open a shop for that purpose the police would probably stop him at once. Such a breach of the law would not be permitted. Newspapers have tried the same plan under different pretexes, and have found themselves gripped by the strong arm of civil law. A gigantic lottery swindle at St. Stephen, N. B., after evading the law for years has been at length rooted out, but "churches" and "societies" in their greed for gain disregard both civil law and moral right.

We need not stop here to prove the wrong of the lottery, the unjust gain without giving an equivalent. Suffice it to say that even legislators who are sometimes not over hasty to move in matters of moral reform, realizing the evil that results from the whole system of gain by chance, have made lotteries of any kind unlawful. The Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia speaks regarding the matter as follows:—

"Whosoever shall undertake or set up, or shall by writing or printing, publish the undertaking or setting up, of any lottery or raffle for money or goods, with intent to have such lottery or raffle drawn or thrown, or to induce persons to purchase tickets or to give money or other valuables for any such lottery or raffle, or shall play, throw, or draw, at such lottery or raffle, or shall purchase any lot or ticket for any such lottery, or shall take part in any such raffle, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding forty dollars; and in default of payment shall be committed to jail for a period not exceeding thirty days."

Let Christian people who have sought to further what they may think good ends by these evil means, count up the few dollars they have, as they think, made by it, and then let them look at the gambling hells, at the lives spent, the wasted fortunes, the blighted hopes and prospects, the murders committed, the souls ruined, in the mad infatuation, as the passion for gambling gains strength, a passion that takes its rise in just such small beginnings as giving a few cents for a lottery ticket. Let them look on this and then on that, and then, if they can, pray for a blessing on their work.

Just as well may the rumseller pray for a blessing on his work when he breaks laws human and Divine. Gambling and drunkenness are twins, in character, growth, and power, and very often dwell together.

We are not speaking of bazaars, fancy sales, or picnics, as such, where people may meet for a day's recreation, or that may be held, to dispose of articles that may have been made for a good cause, but, of the illegal, immoral practices that are becoming so prevalent in connection with them.

Another "institution" that finds frequent place in connection with such things is the "dancing stage." Read the article on dancing given in another column, take it in its favorite connections and associations, then build a church or some other good institution on a dancing stage at five cents a dance, and expect God's blessing on the work. It is mockery of Heaven.

Still another unjust gain that is becoming prevalent at such gatherings, and has proved quite successful in drawing money, is the vote for some popular man, which, stripped of its specious covering, is but another form of lottery, the only difference being that a man in buying one of more tickets or votes hopes to win the prize, not for himself but for his favorite, and just as in the lottery, the more he buys the greater his chances of success. How can God's blessing be expected upon any work, social or religious, that thus sets at defiance the *statutes* of human law and the *principles* of Divine Law? No doubt many have engaged in this work thoughtlessly, but we hope that when they come to consider it in its true light they will wash their hands at once and forever from all such methods of seeking to advance the good by following the evil.