

## LOTTERIES.

Simultaneously with the resolution of the Birmingham magistrates to put down lotteries at bazaars, an incident that has led to some searchings of heart in other places besides the midland capital, we hear from India that the launching of a lottery at Hyderabad by a Roman bishop has been the unwitting instrument in calling down the heavy hand of the supreme government upon all lottery schemes whatever. The governor of Bengal first took action in the matter, and he was sustained by the Roman Catholic viceroy, who issued an order which has been read with profound satisfaction by all friends of morality throughout the empire. The order applies to every province of India; and the pious and the sporting lottery are to share the same grave.—*Christian Leader*.

## BISHOP OR PRESBYTER.

Presbyter is the same as a bishop. And before dissensions in religion were produced by the instigation of the devil, and one said, I am of Paul, and another, I am of Cephas, the Churches were governed by a common Council of Presbyters. Afterwards, in order to destroy the seeds of dissension, the whole charge was committed to one. Therefore, as the Presbyters knew that according to the custom of the Church they are subject to the Bishop who presides over them, so let the Bishops know that their superiority to the Presbyters is more from custom than from the appointment of the Lord, and they ought to unite together in the government of the Church.—*Jerome*.

## CONSIDERING THYSELF.

If you saw a person on the verge of a gulf you would not carelessly, lest in seeking to save him you should push him over the brink.

Recently a pale-faced, sorrow-stricken woman, while in a dry-goods store in Kansas City, Mo., was observed by a salesman concealing a bundle of laces under a shawl. Very quietly and without attracting the attention of a single eye in the store, the salesman said to her, "I am not able to pay for the lace under your shawl, or you might keep it and welcome. Please put it back while I walk to the other end of the counter." Large tears came into the woman's haggard eyes, her whole face expressed gratitude, and without a word she put the lace back and walked out of the store.

Perhaps that gentle word saved a lot-tering soul from a fatal plunge. Others around us need salvation. Let us seek them and win them. "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Gal. vi. 1.—*Hastings*.

## SETTLE DISPUTES WITH PRAYER.

Two neighbours, a cooper and a farmer, were spending the evening together; both were professors of religion, but of different communions. Their conversation was first upon topics relating to practical religion; but after a time it diverged to the points of difference between the two denominations to which they belonged. It first became a discussion, then a dispute. The cooper was first to perceive its unprofitable and injurious tendency, and remarked: "We are springing apart from each other; let us put on another hoc—let us pray." They kneeled down and prayed together, after which they spent the remainder of the evening lovingly together, conversing on the things of the Kingdom in which they both felt an equal interest. The suggestion of the cooper was an excellent one.—*Spurgeon*.

Dr. Nevius has made an estimate that there are, or were, in round numbers, about 300,000 idol temples in China; and, at the rate of ten idols to each temple, there would be 3,000,000 idols. These temples he estimates to have cost \$1,000,000,000! And the money which is spent annually by this people in worship and the repairs of these buildings, as well as the building of new ones, is simply beyond conception. In Soochow, one of the largest temples has recently been overhauled and repaired, at an expense; it is said of \$70,000—largely given by one man, who thereby is supposed to get great merit.

In making the beautiful golden inscriptions on the backs of volumes, hot type overlaid with thin leaves of gold are pressed upon them, the heat causing the gold to adhere, without which the inscription would not be permanent. It is even so in the world of thought and speech. If we would make lasting impressions upon the character of hearers or readers we should not only press upon them with the hand of eloquent earnestness words overlaid with golden thoughts but they should be burning words from hearts aflame with love.—*Rev. J. R. Goodpasture*.