

the Concordat with the Pope. He is decidedly liberal in his views, and has accorded to Protestants equal rights with Roman Catholics throughout his Empire. There is not now a sovereign in all Europe willing to bow the knee to the Pope or do the bidding of the Jesuits!

### OBITUARY.

#### A Mother in Israel called Home.

Died at Huntley, P. E. I., on the 26th ult., Mary, relict of the late John Gordon, in the 81st year of her age.

The following remarks are from the *Summerside Journal*:

"This week's issue records the death of Mrs. John Gordon, who was one of the oldest and perhaps the most generally known inhabitants of Cascumpce. When roads, and houses of entertainment were wholly, or almost unknown in that part of the Island, she, in common with her husband, found it a pleasure to spread a table and couch for many a weary traveller. For several years she has been deprived of sight, and as a result, no doubt, it somewhat injured her general health. The sad tidings of the death of her second son, in Erromanga, bore much more heavily upon her mind than was at first supposed, and probably had no slight tendency to hasten on her last illness."

Much more might truthfully be said respecting the general excellence of character, the hospitality and kindness of this elect Lady. When first acquainted with her, and 31 years have gone since we spent three weeks under her roof, she was surrounded by, and the centre of attraction to, a large, healthy and happy family. But how wonderful are the chances and changes of life. Besides other changes with which the public have nothing to do, two of those boys have become ministers, missionaries and martyrs, and their names and work associated, for ever with the history of the Evangelization of Erromanga.

Doubtless the news of the last tragedy had a "tendency to hasten on her last illness." Her sands were well nigh run, and at any time a slight jar might clear the glass, and the jar experienced was no slight one. It was indeed nobly borne. Her friends had apprized her of the report while there was yet hope that it might prove false; and she sought aid from above and prepared herself for the worst. Her son wrote to the Secretary of the Board shortly afterward. "She has received the intelligence with less despondency and sadness than I anticipated. After giving vent to that outburst of grief which was to be expected she said "that she did not think it was right to grieve too much as she felt

convinced, he was then walking the golden streets of the New Jerusalem." But the terrible tidings, though bravely met, could scarcely fail of weakening the frail tabernacle ready, even without any external shock to be dissolved; and so a few months having passed, she has gone where the death divided who sleeps in Jesus meet to part no more, where the weary are at rest, and the servant enters into the joy of his Lord.

#### A PLEASING INCIDENT.

Our last note from Rev. J. D. Gordon was written shortly preceeding his death, and was a commission to transmit Five Pounds Stg. to his friends in Alberton, for what purpose we knew not. But here is the explanation in a note from Mr. Robert Gordon, his brother:

"Previous to going from home he gave me in charge, when his mother should be done with her old arm chair, to take it to pieces, put it into a box, and send it to him. In this, as in other matters, man may propose, while God directs, and it greatly affected me to be the medium of, as I may say, a part of his dying legacy, to present my mother with a comfortable chair in his name, with the desire from him, that she might find it comfortable."

From that chair she looked across the great deep to the distant isle which had proved so fatal to her sons, and which contained their dust, but from that chair she also looked across the Jordan and awaited the summons to meet their ransomed spirits, in the presence of the Lord and of the Lamb. Blessed are such dead—they rest from their trials—their works do follow.

### Illustrations of Sabbath School Lessons for December.

#### FIRST SABBATH.

The wicked plotteth against the just; and gnasheth upon him with his teeth: Psalm 37, 12.

The wrath of man shall praise God. I believe the last song of the redeemed, when they shall ultimately triumph, will celebrate in heavenly stanzas, the wrath of man overcome by God. Sometimes, after great battles, monuments are raised to the memory of the fight; and of what are they composed? They are composed of weapons of death, and instruments of war which have been taken from the enemy. Now, to use that illustration, as I think it may be properly used, the day is coming when fury and wrath, and hatred and strife shall all be woven into a song; and the weapons of our enemies, when taken from them, shall serve to make monuments to the praise of God. Rail on, rail on, blasphemers. Smite on, smite on, tyrant!