

which should be looked upon at present with peculiar interest. The inhabitants of that Province are now making overtures for admission to the Dominion, and it is probable that before long they may form part of our own country, and be united under one Government with us. Under these circumstances the presence of Mr. Somerville, who there is reason to believe will be at the Synod, ought to be taken advantage of to obtain all the information possible. From various sources we hear cheering accounts of the progress made by that gentleman, and of the confidence felt in him by all classes of the community in British Columbia. Thus there has been an opening made for further efforts, which may lead to good results.

The mission to the Lumbermen is a work which has been in operation for the last two years, and it will be for the Synod to consider the report which Mr. Gordon, of Ottawa, who has acted as convener will no doubt present. The importance of the movement can scarcely be overrated and the economical, and yet efficient manner in which it has been conducted, has been worthy of all praise.

We would urge upon all the closest attention to the provisions of the Form of Polity which is now an Interim Act.

It would be impossible to review in however cursory a manner the Form which is intended to regulate the procedure of the Church. Unless it has been thought over and considered carefully by the members of Synod before the time of meeting, it is plain there can be no intelligent discussion. Even yet, however, those who have not fairly mastered the clauses should go over them carefully, as it is most desirable the subject should receive the most earnest and mature consideration.

There are other subjects of importance which will arise in the course of the proceedings, and our prayer is that Heavenly wisdom may direct all the actions and deliberations of the Synod, and that all may be done to the praise and glory of God, the great Head of the Church.

IN MEMORIAM.

WILLIAM FRASER, ESQ., PERTH.—Death has been again amongst us, and has removed a very devoted and much respected elder of our Church, William Fraser, Esq., of Perth, who has for many years been a member and office-bearer of S. Andrew's Church there.

Mr. Fraser was a native of Inverness,

Scotland, and came to this country; with his family, in the year 1820, soon after the formation of the Perth and Lanark settlements. His father represented the united counties of Lanark and Renfrew in Parliament for a few years.

Mr. Fraser received a liberal education in the academy of his native town, and was for some years previous to his emigration clerk in one of the banks there. He carried on business as a merchant in Perth for several years.

He was appointed treasurer of the united counties of Lanark and Renfrew in 1856, which office he held up to the separation of these counties in 1861; and since that period he has been treasurer of the county of Lanark.

He was an excellent accountant, and managed the financial affairs of the counties to the entire satisfaction of his constituents, and with an affability that won him the respect and regard of all, of every class and denomination, with whom his duties brought him into contact. He was very intelligent, of a genial and cheerful disposition, and possessed of considerable originality of character.

He had a very strong and warm attachment to the Church of Scotland and to our Church in connection with it.

He took an active part for several years as a teacher in the Sabbath School; and the fervency of his prayers, and their happy appropriateness to local and general emergencies, will be long remembered by those who have been in the practice of attending that meeting.

As a Christian, he was humble and unassuming, strong in faith, exemplary in private and public life, and well reported of by "those who are without."

His end was peace. For several weeks after he was seized with his last illness his friends were hopeful that he would be spared to them for a time. He himself, however, had a strong conviction that his work on earth was done; and, reposing in simple faith upon the merits of the atonement of his Saviour, and "having good hope through grace," he had through his illness an abiding desire to depart and to be with Christ, which he felt was far better for him than to remain longer here, subject to infirmity and pain and sin. During the short time he was confined to bed, staying himself upon God, he seemed to enjoy unbroken peace; and on the evening of the 30th March, surrounded by the members of his affectionate and mourning family, he