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of the Queen began, a large part of our land was nothing but an unexplored and seemingly inhospitable wilderness. Almost incessant strife had long prevailed not only with the aboriginal tribes but between the two European races which joined in its colonization. The Indian problem is now practically settled, and the ancient feud of French and English exchanged for the unity of a common patriotism which rejoices to be called Canadian. There have been times when the ebbing wave of colonial life has seemed to leave a stretch of barren sand along the shore of history, but each flood-tide has risen higher than the last, until now the purely experimental stage of our career is passing away forever. Step by step a path has been cut through the forest, and the earth made to yield its varied stores. Step by step we have grown in wealth and knowledge and the amenities of a free civilization. Step by step we have come to discern more clearly the character of the mission which is entrusted to our care. We have had our times of commercial depression, of divided interests, of strife within our borders and invasion from without them. But these varied experiences, so far from bringing disheartenment, have only served to emphasize the value of self-control and resolution and fidelity in order to the building up of a strong and stable commonwealth. In a happy day the federation of the provinces was accomplished, and their separate history merged though not obscured in the history of the whole Dominion. We have reason to be proud of the place assigned to Canada's representative in the official cele-