

the throne of a great nation a full half century. This is, of itself, sufficient cause for congratulation; but when, as in this instance, the sovereign has constantly displayed a marked consideration for the welfare of her subjects, has aided the cause of humanity, has won the love and respect of her people, at home and abroad, then it is fit that the event be celebrated with unusual demonstrations. Throughout England, Ireland, Scotland, Australia, New

Zealand, Canada, India, and, in fact, wherever the royal standard of England waves, her loyal subjects will celebrate this semi-centennial with great ceremonies and fervid jubilee demonstrations. Nor will these expressions of joy and congratulation be confined to Her Majesty's dominions, but in every city of the United States, and in every portion of the world where her loyal subjects may be found, voices will be raised in praise and benediction.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

FORTUNATELY for the welfare of British Columbia, the affairs of the province are conducted by men of ability, honor and intelligent enterprise. Under their management, that part of the dominion is becoming widely and favorably known throughout the English speaking world, and immigrants and capital are pouring in to develop its resources and occupy its fertile soil. On page 414 are given the portraits of four of the most prominent officials, in connection with which the following brief sketches of their lives will possess peculiar interest:

The chief executive and representative of the crown is the lieutenant governor, Hon. Hugh Nelson, one of the oldest and most respected pioneers of the province. He was born May 25, 1830, in the town of Lurnoe, county of Antrim, Ireland, where he obtained his education. In the early years of the province, he cast his lot in this far portion of Her Majesty's dominions, and has resided on Burrard inlet for many

years. He was made a senator on the 12th of December, 1873, and on the 29th of March last, took the oath of office as lieutenant governor of British Columbia, by appointment of the queen. He is a strong liberal-conservative, and his elevation to the executive chair is one of the strongest acts of Sir John A. Macdonald's administration of dominion affairs in the province, as he holds the affection and admiration of the people. Mr. Nelson and his charming lady reside at the castle, the beautiful executive mansion in the suburbs of Victoria.

Attorney-general and premier, Hon. Alexander Edmund Bastion Davis, was born in Somersetshire, England, in November, 1846. He was educated in Silcoate's school, near Wakefield, Yorkshire. December 3, 1874, he married Constance Longford, third daughter of T. S. Skinner, Esq., of Farleigh, near Maple bay, Vancouver island. He was admitted as an attorney of British Columbia in 1868, and was called to the bar in 1873. Mr. Davis is one of the