### The original documents are located in Box 36, "7/5/76 - Remark at Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello, Charlottesville, Virginia" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

# REMARKS AT MONTICELLO

# MONDAY, JULY 5, 1976

#### ACKNOW LEDGEMENTS

### MONTICELLO, VIRGINIA

THANK YOU, GOVERNOR GODWIN

\_

MR. JUSTICE POWELL

<u>\_\_\_\_\_</u>

SENATOR BYRD

MR. NOLTING

(Chairman, Board of Trustees, Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation)

REVEREND CLERGY

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DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I AM PROUD TO WELCOME YOU AS FELLOW-CITIZENS OF

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I INVITE YOU TO JOIN FULLY IN THE AMERICAN ADVENTURE

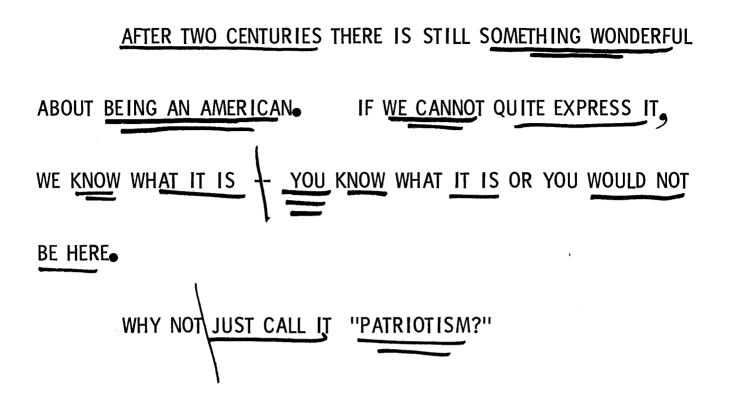
AND TO SHARE OUR COMMON GOAL AND OUR COMMON GLORY.

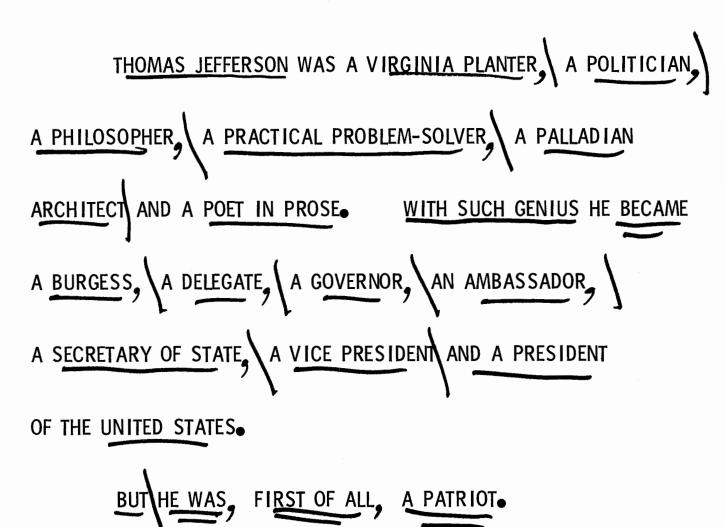
OUR <u>COMMON GOAL</u> IS <u>FREEDOM</u>  $\downarrow$  THE LIBERTY OF EACH INDIVIDUAL TO ENJOY THE EQUAL RIGHTS AND TO <u>PURSUE</u> THE <u>HAPPINESS</u> WHICH, IN THIS LIFE, <u>GOD GIVES AND SELF-GOVERNMENT</u> SECURES. OUR <u>COMMON GLORY</u> IS THE GREAT HERITAGE FROM THE PAST

WHICH ENRICHES OUR PRESENT AND ENSURES OUR FUTURE.

IN 1884 FRANCE, AS A BIRTHDAY GIFT, PRESENTED THE UNITES STATES WITH THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IN NEW YORK HARBOR. THIS YEAR SCORES OF FRIENDLY NATIONS HAVE SENT US BICENTENNIAL GIFTS WHICH WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE AND WILL LONG CHERISH. BUT YOU HAVE GIVEN US A BIRTHDAY PRESENT BEYOND PRIC YOURSELVES, YOUR FAITH, YOUR LOYALTY AND YOUR LOVE. WE THANK YOU WITH FULL AND FRIENDLY HEARTS.

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THE AMERICAN PATRIOTS OF 1776 WHO PLEDGED THEIR LIVES, THEIR FORTUNES AND THEIR SACRED HONOR TO DECLARE AND DEFEND OUR INDEPENDENCE DID MORE THAN DISSOLVE THEIR TIES WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY TO PROTEST ABUSE OF THEIR LIBERTIES. JEFFERSON AND HIS COLLEAGUES VERY DELIBERATELY AND DARINGLY SET OUT TO CONSTRUCT A NEW KIND OF NATION.

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"MEN MAY BE TRUSTED," HE SAID, "TO GOVERN THEMSELVES

WITHOUT A MASTER."

# THIS WAS THE MOST REVOLUTIONARY IDEA IN THE WORLD

AT THAT TIME. IT REMAINS THE MOST REVOLUTIONARY IDEA

IN THE WORLD TODAY.

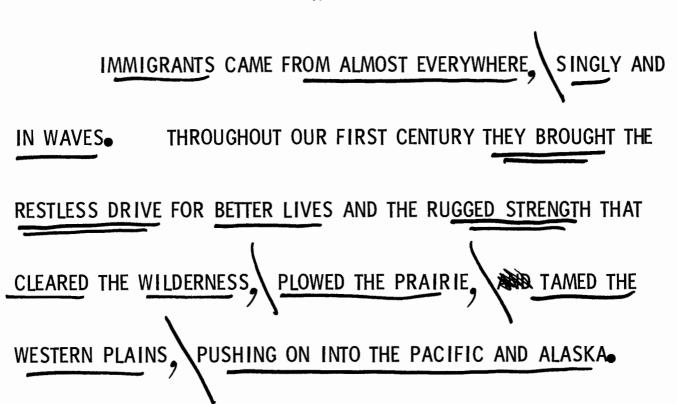
WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN, ADAMS, JEFFERSON, HAMILTON, MADISON AND ALL PATRIOTS WHO LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR FREEDOM IN OUR DECLARATION AND OUR CONSTITUTION CAREFULLY STUDIED BOTH CONTEMPORARY AND CLASSICAL MODELS OF GOVERNMENT TO ADAPT THEM TO THE AMERICAN CLIMATE AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

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JUST <u>AS JEFFERSON DID</u> IN <u>DESIGNING MONTICELLO</u>, THEY WANTED TO BUILD IN THIS <u>BEAUTIFUL LAND</u> A <u>HOME FOR EQUAL FREEDOM</u> AND <u>OPPORTUNITY</u>, A <u>HAVEN OF SAFETY</u> AND <u>HAPPINESS</u> NOT FOR THEMSELVES ALONE BUT FOR ALL WHO WOULD COME TO US THROUGH THE CENTURIES.

HOW WELL THEY BUILT IS TOLD BY MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS

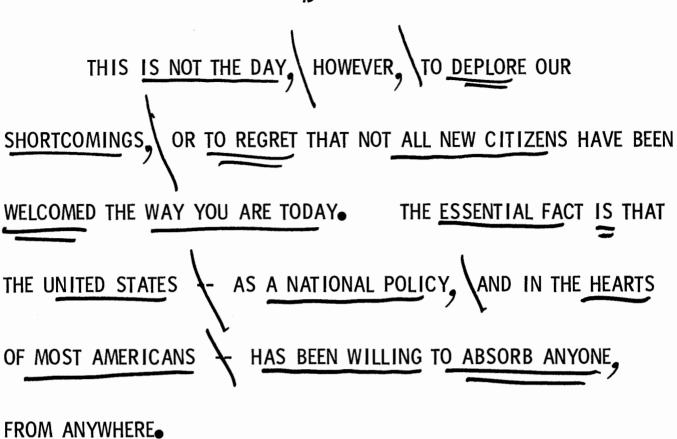
OUR FIRST NATIONAL CENSUS IN 1790 RECORDED A POPULATION JUST UNDER FOUR MILLION. THREE-FOURTHS OF THEM TRACED THEIR ANCESTRY TO THE BRITISH ISLES, THOUGH MOST HAD CONSIDERED THEMSELVES AMERICANS FOR SEVERAL GENERATIONS. THERE WAS ALREADY TALK THAT FURTHER IMMIGRATION SHOULD BE SELECTIVE AND RESTRICTED, BUT THIS WAS SWEPT ASIDE BY THE GREATEST MASS MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE IN ALL HUMAN HISTORY.

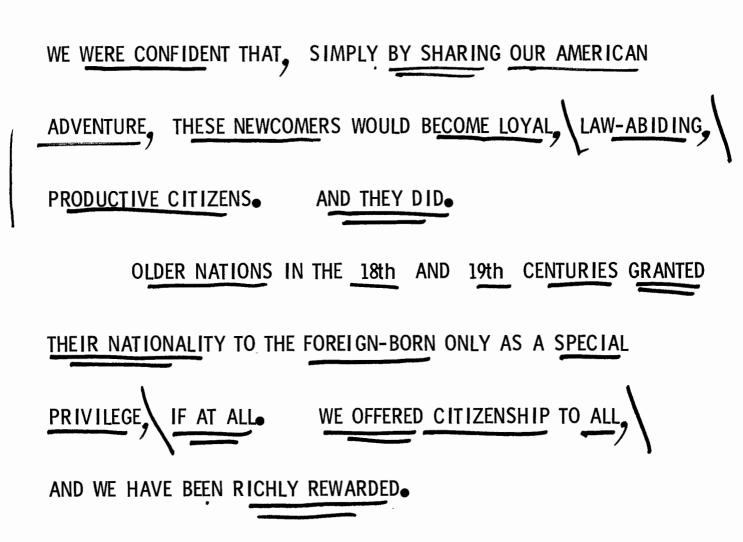


LIKE THE MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS AND THE EARLY SPANISH

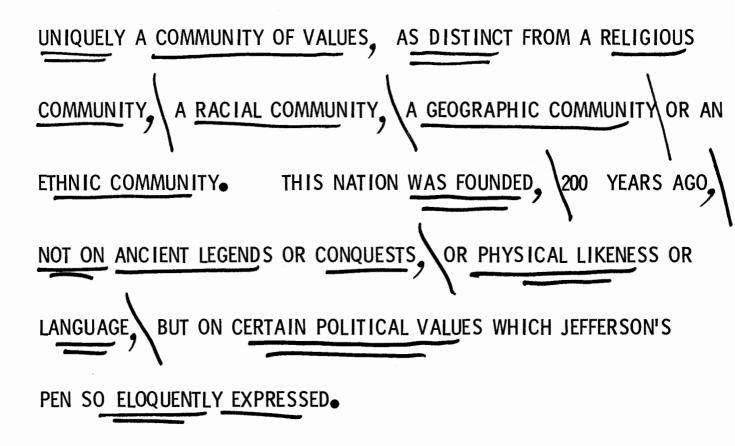
SETTLERS, THESE NEW AMERICANS BROUGHT WITH THEM PRECIOUS RELICS OF THE WORLD'S THEY LEFT BEHIND: A SONG, A STORY, A DANCE A TOOL, A RECIPE, A SEED - THE NAME OF A PLACE, THE RULES OF A GAME, A TRICK OF THE TRADE.

SUCH TRANSFUSIONS OF TRADITIONS AND CULTURES AS WELL AS OF BLOOD HAVE MADE AMERICA UNIQUE AMONG NATIONS AND AMERICANS A NEW KIND OF PEOPLE. THERE IS LITTLE THE WORLD HAS THAT IS NOT NATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES TODAY. UNFETTERED BY ANCIENT HATES, THE PEOPLE OF THE YOUNG UNITED STATES REALLY BELIEVED THAT "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL•" WE ADMIT THEY HAD STUBBORN BLIND SPOTS IN THEIR LOFTY VISION FOR BLACKS, WHOSE FOREBEARS HAD BEEN AMERICANS ALMOST AS LONG AS THEIRS AND FOR WOMEN, WHOSE POLITICAL RIGHTS WE TOOK EVEN LONGER TO RECOGNIZE•





## THE UNITED STATES WAS ABLE TO DO THIS BECAUSE WE ARE

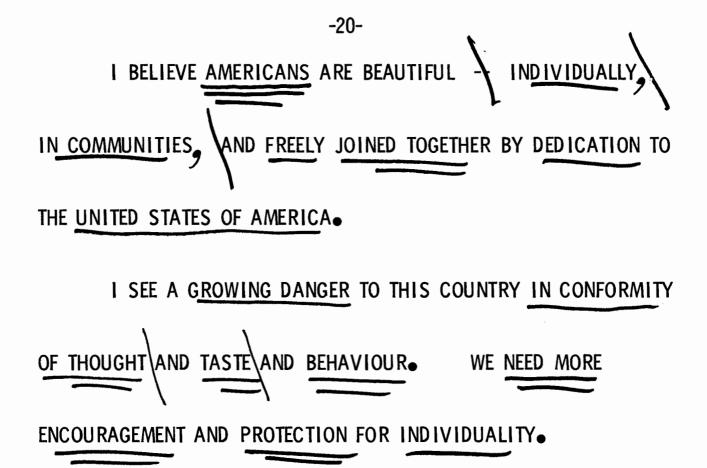


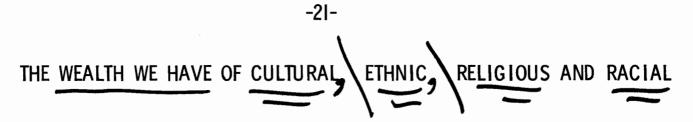
TO BE AN AMERICAN IS TO SUBSCRIBE TO THOSE PRINCIPLES

WHICH THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE PROCLAIMS AND THE

CONSTITUTION PROTECTS: THE POLITICAL VALUES OF SELF GOVERNMENT, LIBERTY AND JUSTICE, EQUAL RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. THESE BELIEFS ARE THE SECRET OF AMERICA'S UNITY FROM DIVERSITY - IN MY JUDGMENT, THE MOST MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR 200 YEARS AS A NATION. "BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL" WAS A MOTTO OF GENIUS WHICH UPLIFTED US FAR ABOVE ITS FIRST INTENTION. ONCE AMERICANS HAD THOUGHT ABOUT IT AND PERCEIVED ITS TRUTH, WE BEGAN TO REALIZE THAT SO ARE BROWN, WHITE, RED AND YELLOW BEAUTIFUL. WHEN I WAS YOUNG, A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TOLD US THAT THE BEAUTY OF JOSEPH'S COAT WAS ITS MANY COLORS.

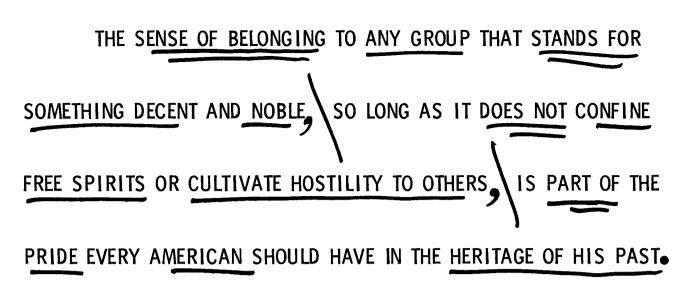
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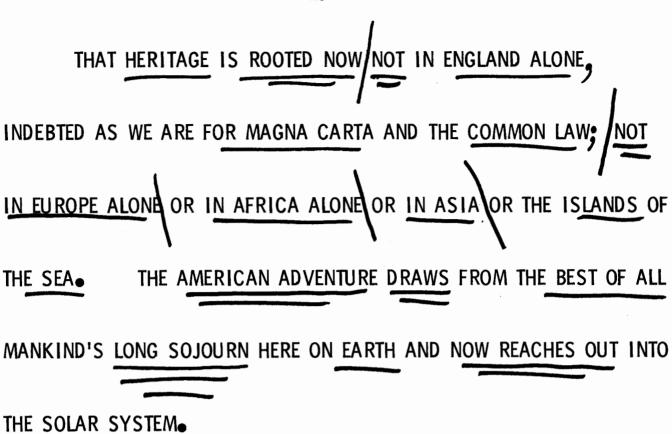


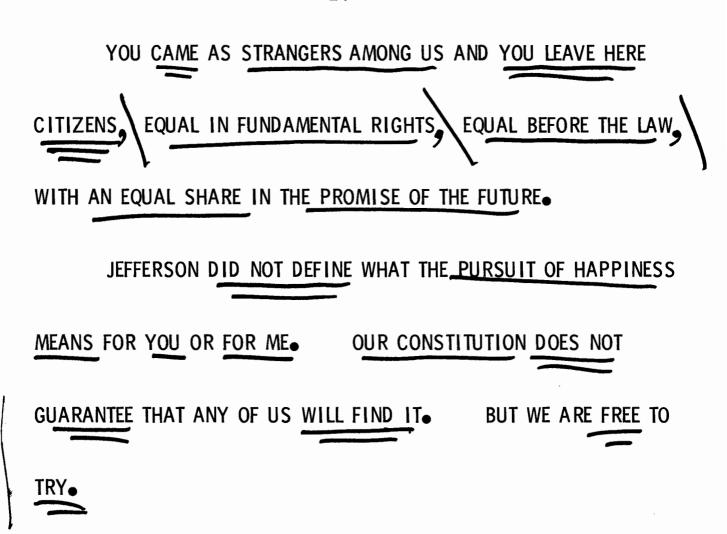


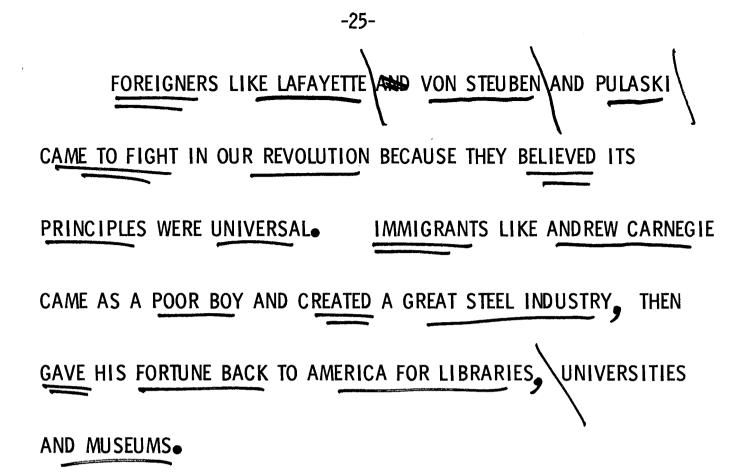
TRADITIONS ARE VALUABLE COUNTERBALANCES TO THE OVERPOWERING

SAMENESS AND SUBORDINATION OF TOTALITARIAN SOCIETIES.

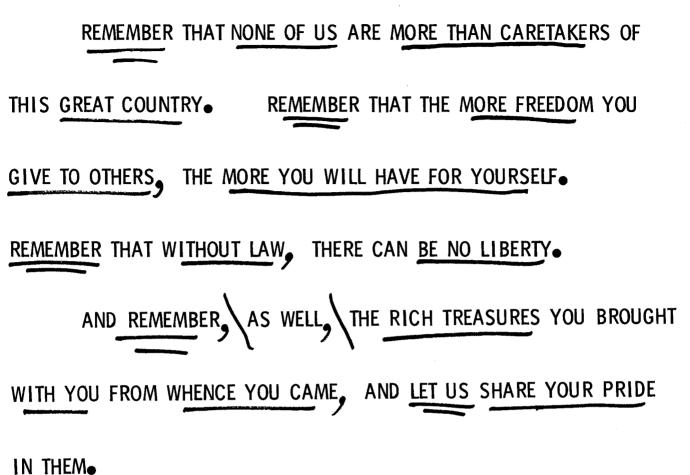








MARIA FRANCESCA CABRINI CAME AS A MISSIONARY SISTER TO SERVE THE SICK AND THE POOR. SAMUEL GOMPERS WORKED IN A SWEAT SHOP AND SPENT HIS LUNCH TIME HELPING OTHER IMMIGRANT WORKERS LEARN TO READ SO THEY COULD BECOME CITIZENS. WE HAVE GAINED FAR MORE THAN WE HAVE GIVEN TO THE MILLIONS WHO MADE AMERICA THEIR SECOND HOMELAND.



AS THE DAY IT WAS DECLARED, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN JOSEPH'S COAT.

## END OF TEXT