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Then followed
GIBBONS, as follows: the James. Cardinal

“Nearly two thousand years ago, the first words that were uttered to announce the birth of the Saviour of mankind was the angelic anthem containing a proclamation of peace to the world, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.’ And the first greeting of the risen Saviour to His assembled apostles was also a message of blessed peace, ‘Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them: Peace be to you.’

“Christ’s mission on earth was to establish a triple peace in the hearts of men—peace with God, by the observance of His commandments; peace with our fellow-men, by the practice of justice and charity; and peace within our own hearts, by keeping our passions subject to reason and our reason in harmony with the divine law.

“He came, above all, ‘to break down the middle wall of partition’ that divided nation from nation, that alienated tribe from tribe and people from people, and to make them all, as it were, one family,

acknowledging the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Christ.

“God grant that this temple, consecrated to peace and good will, may be instrumental in bringing about a more humane, enlightened, and statesman-like policy, by fostering and developing our commercial and social relations with all the nations of the world. Let the streams of commerce flow abundantly between the Republics of South America and the United States like an invigorating blood coursing through the arteries of the human body, diffusing life and activity, and all forming, as it were, one social organism, each member exulting in the health and growth of the other and stimulating the remotest parts with renewed energy and activity. Let our business relations with those commonwealths be so inseparable and reciprocal that the injury of one will be felt by the others, and the prosperity of one will be shared by all.

“We pray Thee, O God of might, wisdom, and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with Thy holy spirit of counsel and fortitude the President of these United States, who honors by his presence this occasion, that his Administration may be conducted in righteousness and be eminently useful to Thy people over whom he presides, by encouraging a due respect for virtue and religion, by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy, and by restraining vice and immorality.

“We pray Thee for Thy servant, the Secretary of State of these United States, by whose wisdom and statesmanship closer diplomatic, commercial, and social relations have been brought about and fostered between this country and her sister American Republics.

“We pray Thee to reward with Thy benedictions Thy servant who has taken such a hearty interest in the cause of international fellowship, and who has so generously contributed toward the erection of this temple consecrated to peace.

“Finally, we beg of Thee to bless all our sister American Republics with an ever-increasing prosperity, and grant that we may always remain united in the bonds of undivided friendship and lasting peace.”