

What an appropriate phrase to be written in the concluding lines of a new beginning...the Declaration of Independence.

Our citizens are diverse...representative of all ages, all national descents, all races, religions, and creeds.

We are unique, for such a diverse "melting pot" has not previously been known to man. Yet, in all the years since 1776, there has been only one Civil War fought on our soil. Our United States, though relatively young, is nevertheless a nation wholly dedicated to the preservation of peace and freedom.

As we celebrate our two hundred eighteenth birthday, as the drama of festive fireworks and the "Star Spangled Banner" ring in our ears, may we yet hear this historic echo, the foundation upon which our nation was built..."and for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance upon the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor."

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society

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