February 23, 1998

To our children, Corna and Mary Shannon and to all the children and young people of America, I recommend the frequent review of this address. Our author, our tried President, calls us to a sacred devotion to liberty, a free expression of religious practice and to a recognition of our Union as our greatest strength. As to civil affairs he begins us to seek harmony with all nations and to be fair and impartial in our dealings with them. This address is filled with sage advice and admonitions which are as relevant today as they were 200 years ago.

It is indeed a privilege to have been asked to deliver it as the special occasion, but it is a greater privilege to be as citizen of this great nation. It is an obligation of this great nation. It is an obligation of our Union to so as to render it the shining light it was created to be. May God bless Shannon.