

ЗАРУБЕЖНАЯ РУСЬ

RUSSIA ABROAD

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ОБЩЕСТВЕННО-ЛИТЕРАТУРНЫЙ ОРГАН
РУССКОЙ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ
И
ПРАВОСЛАВНОЙ МЫСЛИ
Под Редакцией А. А. Соллогуб

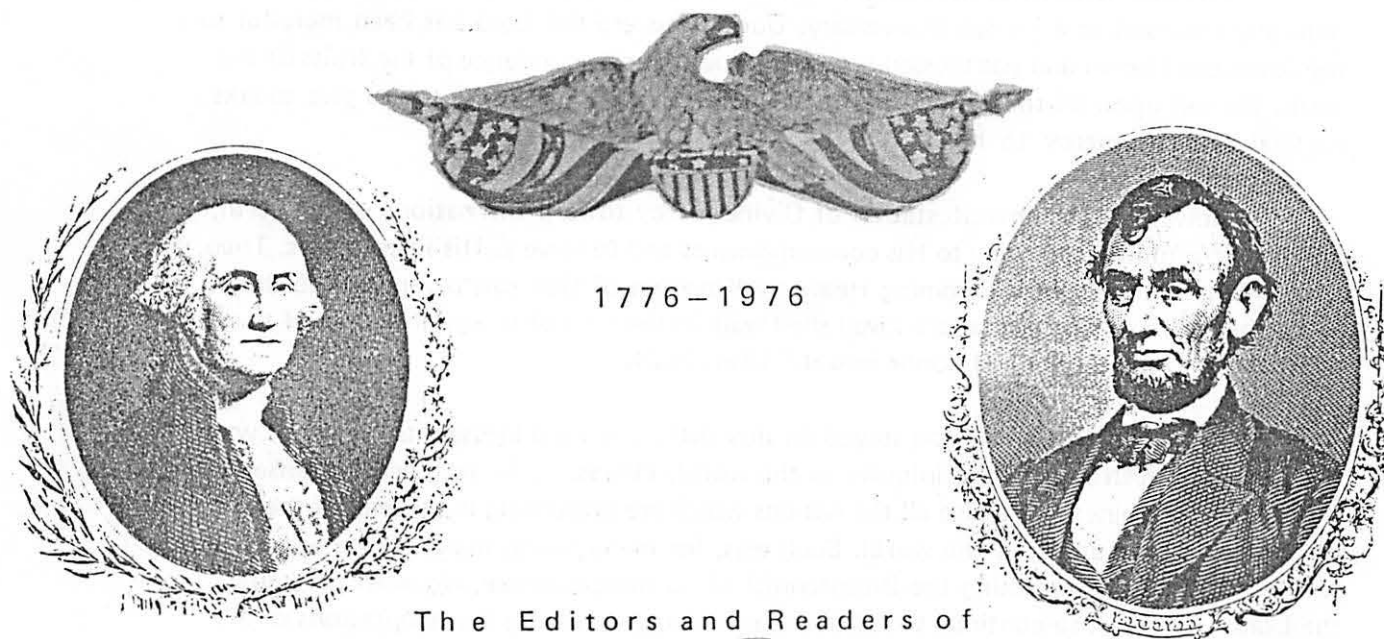
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The Editors and Readers of

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congratulate

the President, the Congress and the Whole American Nation

on the 200th ANNIVERSARY of the

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

and cordially wish that she might continue
to flourish and increase in strength and wisdom as

'ONE NATION UNDER GOD

bringing to fulfillment her ideals of Freedom, Justice, and Christian Love
for the Good of All Mankind



President
of the Synod of Bishops
of the Russian Orthodox Church
Outside of Russia.

TO THE GODFEARING FLOCK IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Bicentennial of the Independence of the United States of America this year is naturally observed as a joyous anniversary. During this era the Lord has been merciful to the American Nation and has blessed it with prosperity and abundance of the fruits of the earth. We call upon all the members of our Church living in this Country to give thanks to God for His mercy to her.

However, every manifestation of Divine mercy toward the nations of the earth, obliges them to live according to His commandments and to serve as His instruments. Then, that which is said about the coming Heavenly Kingdom of God can be applied to them: "And the nations of them that are saved shall walk in the light of it; and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it." (Rev. 21,24).

While the Russian Nation stayed on this path, the Lord blessed its life and it was the one "that restraineth" the iniquity in the world. (Thess. 2, 7). In a certain sense, those "that restraineth" are also all the nations which are preventing the spread of the evil of atheistic Communism in the world. Such was, for many years, the great American Nation. And now, celebrating the Bicentennial of its Independence, we must pray that the Lord will help it to continue to fulfill this mission, overcoming the temptations of the present time, and refraining from the growing abyss of unbelief, sin and corruption.

May the Lord bless this Country and guard it from any misfortune or disaster.

+ Metropolitan Philaret.

METROPOLITAN PHILARET

New York
June 17, 1976