

How God has blessed our nation, from a little group of struggling colonists facing
I saw that three centuries ago we were
an ~~inhabitant~~ in hospitable wilderness, never knowing when burning arrows might
~~attack their simple buildings~~ their rough hewn buildings or ~~poison~~ when poison
arrows might bring their lives to a quick ~~stop~~. ^{And.} Separated by months of dangerous
⁽¹⁾ sailing from their homelands they struggled to build homes ~~and towns~~ where God's
⁽²⁾ Word might reign supreme. God led them in unexpected ways. Eventually ~~in time~~
He freed them from their dependence on ~~their~~ ^{the nations from which} their original homes and took the
thirteen groups of people proud of their separate states and welded them together
into a nation. As they moved westward, at first gradually and then more and
more rapidly, they found that God had prepared for them a ~~rich as land~~ ^{and with tremendous natural resources}. Despite
the ~~fact~~ great advantage of having a common language they might easily have
^{become} ~~been~~ divided into many separate units, but God made them into a unified nation
freed from those animosities and local loyalties that have done so much to
plague and trouble Europe. This land, which once had to get most of its ~~developed~~ ^{manufactured}
goods from across the sea, ^{now} has become the mightiest nation ~~xxxx~~ on earth.