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human mind can predict what benefits the future holds for humanity when the democratic sentiments of the two great English-speaking nations of the world are united in the cause of justice and liberty.

However, while we cannot predict the future we can and do with grateful hearts recognize that fact which surely exists in the present, namely, that the democracies of Great Britain and the United States are one in their support of high ideals which effect the destiny alike of the individual and the state.

For the individual they are determined that he shall have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and for the state they have mutually pledged their vast resources to insure that government of the people, for the people, by the people shall not perish from the earth. Your honour, ladies and gentlemen, I consider it a very high privilege indeed to be able to present to you as our guest today the Hon. James W. Gerard, recently ambassador to Germany for the United States of America.

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## HON. JAMES W. GERARD

Mr. President, your Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, ladies and gentlemen: Although I attended a banquet of the Canadian Club in New York, I don't think I have had the pleasure of meeting so many British subjects together since I left Germany. And when I visited those Prison Camps of Germany, where your fellow-countrymen were interned, I am very proud to say that even at a very early period of the War a great many of those British soldiers spoke with a strong Yankee accent. I know I went to visit one camp and a Highlander with his kilt came forward and said, "Hello, Judge;" and I said, "What sort of a Highlander are you?" and he said, "I come from the Highlands of Orange, New Jersey."

I don't know whether any of the Returned Soldiers that I see about the room have been in the prison camps of Germany and know anything of the horrors at the prisons there, which the prisoners had to suffer, especially at the commencement of the War. The disappointment of the Germans at the entrance of England into the War, because they had not expected it, was so great and so bitter that your soldiers were treated with unexampled cruelty. They were starved and beaten. The camps, of course, much depended upon the commander of them. They were all very strict in discipline, and all of them treated prisoners of war as convicts and not as soldiers taken in honourable battle. Some of these camps stand up beyond the others for

their record of cruelty. Take the camp at Wittenberg. In a few weeks, I believe, they will celebrate through the world the four-hundredth Anniversary of Martin Luther, and Wittenberg was the town where he nailed his thesis on the door of the Schloss-Kirche, and Wittenberg was the town where one of the prison camps was established. There were British, Belgians and Russians in that camp, and some of the British medical officers who were taken with their troops, and who, by the rules of war, were obliged to remain with their troops while they needed them. They put the Russians who were suffering from typhus fever in the same compound with the British, French and Belgian, and when the British medical officers protested, the commander of the camp said, "You have to learn to know your Allies," and just as certainly condemned a number of them to death as if he had ordered them to be shot. In that camp there were a number of dogs that were trained to attack prisoners with a British uniform. They were not kept on the outside of the camp, but the guards took them with them in the camp, and time and again they attacked the prisoners, encouraged by their guards. The British medical officers were even struck by German private soldiers, something which in the German army is a thing absolutely not to be conceived of. I know afterwards, when I complained about conditions in this camp to the Foreign Minister, I said, "What would you do to me if I should go back and visit the