On the inauguration of the second epoch of our struggle, from these mountains, ever faithful to our liberty and independence, we raise our voices to all those in whose breasts beat noble hearts; to all those who have courage and honor, dignity and patriotism.

We make no racial discrimination; we call upon all who possess honor and the sense of personal dignity; the Filipino, the Asiatic, the American and the European all alike suffer; and we invite all those who suffer to aid in lifting up a fallen and tortured people, a country destroyed and sunken in the mire of debasement. We reject no one, not even the Spaniards, for we have gallant Spaniards in our ranks; free from prejudice and solely through love of justice, they defend our demand for the recognition of ourselves and our dignity.

To arms, noble hearts, to arms! Enough of suffering!

The Filipino people crawl in degradation. The country weeps because of the debasement of her sons.

Look at our altars, stained by the religious orders which have converted the most sacred objects into means of avaricious exploitation. Without regard for poverty, for morality or for public health, the friar thinks only of the gold he receives from baptisms, weddings and burials. To them the Tagalogs who have no money are heathens, they may live together in concubinage and their corpses may be food for the crows and the dogs. Only the rich are blessed and receive the sacrament.

Look at our homes, their landmarks and lands watered with the sweat of our forefathers are taken away by the insatiable friars, despots and plunderers of the fruits of our toil, while they proclaim their poverty and chastity. Alas for the family which lays by some little saving; Alas for the mother who has a daughter who is good-looking! On their account innocent parents and brothers will soon have to shed tears of disgrace and exile. Look at the law trampled under foot, converted into a weapon to be used against rather than in defense of the Filipinos; on all sides threats and bribes. The municipality degraded; the administration and treasury ruined by immorality and speculation. In the government and high offices of the State, where the native is barred from holding office, arbitrary rule prevails, individual security depending not on natural right, but on the irresponsible will of any of those in authority. Error and deception is the motto of public instruction; in the schools and the press absolute tyranny; on all sides ignorance, dishonor, vice and corruption.
Appeals to the law have no effect; complaints, demands in legitimate form, have only received contempt. What has been done with our legal petitions to have the friars expelled from Philippine soil? What has been done with our demand and arguments for the proper representation of the Philippines in the Spanish Cortes?

Oh civilization and culture! The signers who peaceably petitioned under the protection of the law are all executed or banished.

Enough, enough of scandal. To arms, Filipinos, to arms, my brothers!

Mindful of the common good, we aspire to the glory of obtaining liberty, independence and honor for the country. We aspire to have a common law, created for all citizens, which will serve them as a guarantee and assurance of respect, without exception. We aspire to have a government which will represent all the active forces of the country, in which will take part the most capable, the most worthy in virtues and talents, without regard to their birth, their wealth or the race to which they belong. We desire that no friar set his foot on any part of the Archipelago, and that no convent or monastery or center of corruption, or partisans of that theocracy which has made this land another inquisitorial Spain, shall remain. In our ranks order shall always be respected.

Under our flag, justice will always govern.

Worthy sons of that liberty which has been so iniquitously snatched away from us, we shall show the world that we are worthy of having our own government — our own country as we have our own language.

We fling back into their teeth the name which our enemies give us. We are the faithful sons, we who, scorning life and money, and comfort, we who, scorning all kinds of hardships, give our blood for the good of our country, for the welfare of our fellow-citizens and the redemption of our children.

Viva the free Philippines!

About this time, the Spanish forces had already