



COMUNE DI CERCENASCO

AN IDEAL BRIDGE ON THE OCEAN (UN IDEALE PONTE SULL'OCEANO)

The experience of piemontese immigration over the ocean, which began as early on as the unification of Italy until the end of the war, was certainly of great significance and of great mass at the same time. The decision to adventure towards unknown lands, trusting in one's own courage, more often than not hid bitter desperation, a last attempt not to be crushed by an unbearably miserable situation in one's home land.

Journeys of hope were no other than bets made on one's own destiny, escape routes where precious salvation was to be found in undefined surroundings, at times compared with making your move in a game of chess of life without knowing what to expect.

Leaving one's roots, customs the pain and bitterness are just a few of the reasons why today's generation must reflect and show their appreciation for those who had to make such sacrifices to receive their daily bread.

We should never forget!

Nowadays life for our immigrants has changed and with satisfaction we can boast that their sacrifice has paid off, allowing them to give their children a brighter future. This makes us feel a whole better and fills us with pride and encourages us to continue our twinship with you as you are descendants from our country.

The spirit of the present book goes in this direction: to make our twinship stronger forming a family. In each of you, even if you were brought up in lands far away, is a part of Cercenasco, with pleasure we say "Welcome home".

As Mayor I would like to express with great affection how happy we are to have you here.

I really hope that this book can help to build "the ideal bridge" that will help to rid us of diversities and distance, creating in each one of us a strong sense of identity: being cercenascoian wherever you find yourselves, with the unavoidable values that it involves.

THE MAJOR
Teresa Rubiano