CARDINAL GIBBONS’ LETTER
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY
In South America.

ROME, June 14, 1895.

Mr. John Lee:

DEAR SIR—In reply to your favor of the 20th ult., I beg to say that some days ago I referred the matter of the disabilities of Protestants in Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia to the cardinal secretary of State. His eminence now writes me as follows:

The letter written to your eminence by Mr. Lee of Chicago has reference to a state of things solely dependent upon the civil laws in force in the republics of Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia. Nevertheless, as your eminence has been pleased to communicate to me the said letter, I have written to the apostolic delegate in the above named republics to obtain precise information concerning the laws which affect the condition of Protestants there as regards both the exercise of their religion and the celebration of marriages. In communicating this to your eminence, and taking it upon myself to call the attention of the Holy See to the information which the aforesaid delegate will send, I am etc.

Availing myself of the opportunity to tender you my best wishes for your welfare, I am, dear sir, Yours sincerely in Christ.

J. CARDINAL GIBBONS.

An Associated Press Dispatch:

New Marriage Laws Needed in Peru.

LIMA, PERU, Dec 27.—In consequence of the attitude of the Peruvian government in refusing to legalize the register of the marriage of Mr. Hazleton and Miss Wood, the American, German and British Ministers here are agitating the question of the laws governing Protestant marriages in Peru.

The Christian Herald, New York, Dec. 4, 1895, says:

Our government has been invited to join that of Great Britain in protest to the government of Peru against the treatment to which Protestant missionaries are subjected. The Lima authorities, instigated by the priests, recently ordered the expulsion of Messrs. Peters and Jarrett, two missionaries who had scrupulously obeyed the law and were very popular among the people of Cuzco, where they have labored with considerable success.