

Land for the people

#4

ANTI-POVERTY

Robert Sch-Irenbach Foundation  
11 Park Place, New York, N. Y.

I thoroughly enjoyed that excursion of yesterday, and I have most thoroughly enjoyed sitting in the background to-night and hearing the sermon to which we have listened. Did I not speak the truth when, on this platform, before the stroke fell, I said that if they suspended him as a priest, God would make him an apostle. (Daffening cheers and applause.)

I first heard of Edward McGlynn in Ireland. (Applause.) It was in what seemed to me the darkest days of the movement. That speech of his, to which he has alluded to-night, rang over the sea, with its burning words, "Spare your apologies, Michael Davitt; go back to Ireland and preach the gospel of the land for the people!" (Great applause.) I welcomed that voice more deeply and more intensely than I can well tell you, and I now rejoice with exceeding great joy that this man, this priest, is free to preach the gospel of glad things for himself and for his Master, here and everywhere - (applause) - for the words that are spoken to this audience stop not here.

The movement that we are carrying forward so rapidly is not merely a movement for this state or for this nation, but for the wide world (apolause); for men of every country, every creed, every color. And its destiny and triumph will be to bring on earth that realization of the brotherhood of man that makes us feel indeed the fatherhood of God. (Applause.) It will bring to pass that kingdom of justice and love of which the seers have prophesied so long, and for which the martyrs have suffered and died.

Aye, it is well for us that we should be living in the latter

half of the nineteenth century, when this great work is going on. It is something worth living for to have had part in it. It is something worth dying for if need be. (Applause.)

Speech: Henry George.

August 20, 1887