

SPEECH OF EDWIN MARKHAM.

I will not call you ladies and gentlemen. I know you too well for that. Henry George has always been to me one of the supreme heroes of humanity. There are patriots you know of countries—patriots belonging merely to their national allegiance; then there are others who rise to a high and beautiful atmosphere and look upon the human race as one family. These are patriots of humanity.

Now, without detaining you very long, I will read to you a verse of mine which I have been asked to read. It is entitled "A Comrade Called Back."* If Henry George had been the one at that time in my mind the poem should have been directed to him. It was instead written for one of the noblest men that has ever appeared upon this planet; a man who is known to every one of you.

I am not so specially concerned about the particular kind of dogma or doctrine that a man holds, so long as he holds to it with all his soul. The great trouble is that the most of us are too comfortable ourselves to take a vital interest in our pressing social problems. Ernest Crosby is the exception. Crosby, poet and reformer, died January 3d, 1907. He is one of the beautiful memories of my life. I like to look back on that high erected spirit, that beautiful face so perfectly frank and so absolutely concentrated on something bigger than the individual. Little souls, you know, are concentrated on themselves. We must become concentrated on something bigger than ourselves in order to live a true human life, and that was the case with this beautiful spirit that I shall never forget until the River of Death closes over me.

**ADDRESS OF GUTIERREZ DE LARA ON "CONDITIONS IN MEXICO,"
BEFORE THE CONFERENCE, TUESDAY, 24th.**

Mr. de Lara said he came from his brothers in Mexico who were trying to solve the land problem for their country. In the United States we had the ballot by which sociological problems can be settled, but in Mexico they had the same problems, more pressing, but they did not have the ballot. It had been absolutely refused them. They were compelled to appeal to revolution.

It was wonderful to see how in the history of Mexico, since the conquest of Spain, all social movements ran round one pivot, the land question. Five years ago, four hundred families controlled the great bulk of the land and allied to them were all other privileged classes. They were supported by the psychological force of the Catholic Church. The Catholic clergy used their religious influence to hold down the large majority of the people. They preached submission.

* A Comrade Called Back. (See any authorized edition of Markham's Poems).