

**FREDERICK TOWNSEND MARTIN'S GOOD WORK**

Frederick Townsend Martin carried the message of brotherly love from Fifth avenue to the Bowery recently, in a speech which rang with sincerity and which won for him one of the warmest welcomes ever accorded a speaker at the famous Bowery Mission. He assured his audience of human derelicts that they did not have a monopoly of misery, and laid great emphasis on the fact that money in abundance was no guarantee against happiness. Several times during his remarks he declared that the remainder of his life would be devoted to lending a helping hand to the unfortunate, and he was cheered to the echo when he stated that many wealthy men and women were only too willing to do the same thing.

The meeting between the two ex-

tremes of society would have been a little more interesting if some of the matrons of the Fifth avenue district had kept their promise to attend the affair. Mr. Martin, his brother, Howard T. Martin, and Bertram Kruger went to the mission direct from the home of Mr. Herman Oelrichs, in East Fifty-seventh street, where a dinner had been given to those who had expressed their intention of making the pilgrimage to the home of the bread line.

At this dinner, besides those mentioned were Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, Mrs. William Douglas, Judge Fawcett, Judge Dyke and half a dozen others. Mr. Martin said that the attendant publicity had frightened the other members of the party and they had deserted at the last moment.

Mr. Martin and his friends reached the mission about a quarter past nine

o'clock and remained there for two hours. Before he returned up town he went through the hall and shook hands with every member in the grimy assemblage. And it was no imitation hand shake, either.

Mr. Martin grabbed each hand and squeezed it vigorously, placing his free hand on the shoulder of the other man and whispering words of courage in his ear. He joined in singing the stirring hymns, as did the other members of his party, and afterward he declared that he had never had a better time.

An incident which will go to show how thoroughly he entered into the spirit of his surroundings took place when the flashlight brigade, stationed in the balcony at the rear of the hall, got ready to make a picture. One of the photographers asked that the men in the body of the hall turn around to get their faces in the picture, but only a few of them obeyed. "Come, on, boys," said Mr. Martin. "You're no better than I am. Turn around now and let us all get photographed together."

This put him on good terms with the audience immediately, and when the Rev. John J. Hallimond, the superintendent, paid him a glowing tribute in his introductory remarks, the men of the Bowery Mission ratified it with three rousing cheers. Not since President Taft spoke there about fifteen months ago has there been such enthusiasm in the place.

"I cannot tell you how pleased I am to be with you," said the speaker. "I have long wanted to come here and meet you face to face and tell you how I feel about the struggle that each of us is having. I want to tell you of the sympathy that I have, and have always had, for those who perhaps are less fortunate than I have been."

"I am no orator but if I were the greatest orator in the land I could not express the wealth of sympathy which you awaken in my heart. I have never felt the pangs of hunger, but from a boy my heart has gone out to those who did not have the ordinary necessities of life. I have always believed that in this world of plenty there was enough for everybody if matters were properly adjusted."

"All this may sound strange coming from a man in my position, but I stand here and tell you that what I say is the absolute truth. It is appalling to think that there are thousands of men in this glorious country who are denied the opportunity for helping themselves. Every person on earth is entitled to some sort of a living. If the savages could get food and raiment from the earth it is a satire on our boasted civilization to see thousands of men compelled to live at the hands of charity."

"Charity will never solve the problem of poverty. The average man will only accept charity as a last resort, when charity is all that stands between him and starvation. Charity is degrading. What the working men of this country want is not charity but justice."

"As long as I live I shall continue to preach and write on this subject and I shall urge those who have been successful to come off their pedestals and help those who have not been so fortunate. Not in a patronizing spirit, but man to man, the stronger lending a hand to the weaker."

"Capital and labor ought to go hand in hand, but, sad to relate, they have not been travelling that way. If they did I think that it would go a long way toward eliminating poverty and distress. And I hope the day is not far off when they will reach a better understanding."

"Above all things do not get discouraged. Do not think that the class I belong to has all the happiness. Nothing could be further from the truth. The class that earns its

living by honest toil is the happiest class on the face of the earth. The burden of riches breeds suspicion of everybody and everything.

"Persons with money are always wondering what other persons want of them. Not long ago I wanted to introduce a highly respectable man of modest income to one of my friends, and the first inquiry the latter made was: 'What does he want from me?' I told him very promptly that if that was the way he felt about it his money was a curse."

"Where there are honest toil and a chance to earn a competency there you will invariably find love, and beside the power of love the power of gold is as nothing. Gold will not bring you happiness, but it will rob you of any happiness you may have had. When things go against you do not get despondent. I have had my share of trouble and sorrow, and I can tell you that anything that I have accomplished has been because of those very things. Every disappointment made me love humanity the more, and I intend to devote the remainder of my life to doing something for all of you. There are thousands of wealthy men and women who are willing to do the same thing if they only knew how to go about it. Courage is the thing. Hang on, even when things look the worst."

"Because our coats are a little different it doesn't follow that our hearts and souls are different. Never let any one tell you that any class is arrayed against you. Do not listen to any one who tries to tell you such things. Keep your hearts pure and good and filled with sympathy for your fellow man. Do not permit your heart to freeze up, or you will drive God out of it, and you will need Him in the struggle against temptation every hour of your life. From the bottom of my heart I thank you

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