

## THE RETURN OF THE LEADER \*



THANK you, Mr. Mayor, through you I thank your committee, and through them I wish to thank the American people, for their greeting. I need hardly say that I am most deeply moved by the extraordinary reception given to me. No man could receive such a greeting without being made to feel both very proud and very humble. I have been away a year and a quarter from America; I have seen strange and interesting things, alike in the heart of the frowning wilderness and in the capitals of the mightiest and most highly polished of civilized nations. I have thoroughly enjoyed myself, and I am more glad than I can say to get home, to be back in my own country, back among the people I love; and ready and eager to do my part, so far as I am able, in solving the problems which must be solved, if we of this, the greatest democratic Republic upon which the sun has ever shone, are to see its destinies rise to the high level of our hopes and its opportunities. This is the duty of every citizen; but it is peculiarly my duty, for any man who has ever been honored by being made President of the United States is thereby forever after rendered the debtor of the American people, and is in honor bound throughout his life to remember this as his prime obligation; and in private life, as much as in public life, so to carry himself that the American people may never have cause to feel regret that once they placed him at their head.

\* Mr. Roosevelt's reply to Mayor Gaynor, of New York, on his return from Africa and Europe, June 18, 1910.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND POPULAR RULE

ESSAYS, ADDRESSES, AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS  
RELATING TO THE PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT  
(1910 - 1916)

BY  
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