

## COLUMBUS MEMORIALS.

THREE OF THEM SOON TO BE PRESENTED TO THIS CITY.

Ground will be broken within the next two weeks for the first of the Columbus memorials in this city which are to mark the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America. There are three such memorials at present under contemplation, two of which are to be contributed by bodies of foreign-born citizens alone, and the third by citizens of every class irrespective of nationality.

The one which has progressed so far that work for its erection is to be begun without delay is the Columbus Column, offered by the Italians resident in the United States as a testimonial of their love for the institutions of this Republic and a tribute to their great countryman.

After a great deal of study and delay the Park Commissioners have given permission to the Executive Committee representing the Italian donors for the erection of the monument in the big circle at Fifty-ninth Street and Eighth Avenue. The committee in charge of the work promises that the gift shall be worthy in every way of its commanding position. Members of the committee say it will be one of the finest pieces of monumental work in the United States.

The model for the monument, executed in plaster, was received from Italy a few days ago, and is now on exhibition in a vacant store at Centre and Duane Streets. It is about 10 feet high, and gives a very fair idea of the monument itself, which is to tower upward to a height of 77 feet from the ground. The pedestal is to be formed of four granite steps, the lowest of which will be 46 feet square. From this point up to the statue of Columbus, which is to surmount the whole, the monument will be of Baveno granite, with the exception of two bas-reliefs at the base, which will be executed in bronze.

The base is a square block of granite, with octagonal pilasters at each corner, and on two of its sides are to be the bronze bas-reliefs, one showing Columbus leaving his vessel in a boat for the land which has been sighted at last, and the other giving a picture of the discoverer as he sets foot on the new-found domain.

Standing on the base is a square-paneled pediment, on two sides of which are inscriptions in English and Italian, respectively, extolling Columbus and setting forth the source from which the monument comes. Resting against the other two sides of the pediment are allegorical figures, and rising from it is a gigantic granite column 27 feet high and 6 feet in diameter. This supports the figure of Columbus, which is done in pure white Carrara marble. The figure is 13 feet in height.

Every part of the monument, which was designed by Gaetano Russo, the Italian sculptor, is finished. It lies partly in Russo's studio in Rome and partly in the workshops where the rougher work was executed. The committee expects to see it shipped to this country in August, and a request has been made of the Italian Government to furnish a war vessel for its transportation. The total cost of the work will be about \$25,000 and it is to be unveiled Oct. 12, 1893.

The second Columbus Memorial has not progressed as far as the first. It is to take the shape of a gigantic fountain, and will be presented by the Spanish-American residents of New-York. The committee having the work in charge has requested the Park Commissioners to place it at the entrance of Central Park at Fifty-ninth Street and Fifth Avenue, but so far the board has not taken any definite action towards accepting the tender of the fountain, nor has it agreed to place it at the desired spot if it is accepted. The gentlemen who are promoting the idea are sanguine, however, of seeing their plans adopted, and they are going ahead steadily with the scheme for raising the necessary funds by subscription among Spanish-Americans. Señor Arturo Baldasano y Tapete, Consul of Spain, and Señor Juan N. Navarro, Consul of Mexico, are at the head of the movement.

The fountain, which is to be done in bronze, has been designed by the sculptor, Fernando Miranda. There will be a stone basin 100 feet in diameter, from the centre of which rises a globe, only about one-quarter of which is visible. On this globe, with one foot resting on Florida and the other on the West Indies, stands Columbus, and beside him are his two Captains, the Pinzon brothers. The figures are about 16 feet high. The globe which supports the group of figures is entirely surrounded by water, in which, on each side, lie fishes of an unknown variety sending huge water spouts into the air.

The sculptor has given his entire time to the work without compensation, and all the gentlemen connected with the enterprise have been indefatigable in their efforts. It is expected that Spain and all Spanish-American republics will contribute old cannon for the bronze which is to make up the fountain.

Gen. James Grant Wilson, representing the American Biographical and Genealogical Society, is at the head of the third memorial project. This is to take the form of a simple statue of Columbus, a replica of the famous figure by Sun6l which stands in Madrid. It is to be copied in bronze, and the donors expect to defray its cost by a general subscription among patriotic citizens. The plan is to make the figure uniform in size with the statue of Shakespeare which stands in Central Park.

In 1884 Gen. Wilson and his associates obtained permission to place their statue opposite the Shakespeare figure, but it is doubtful if the Park Commissioners will now consent to make this promise good, as they object to having too many memorials of Columbus in and about Central Park. The matter is now under consideration by the board, and it is more than probable that, in case the offer of the statue is accepted, it will be placed at Mount Tom, at the southern end of Riverside Drive. A great many requests have been received from west side property owners asking that the offer of the statue be accepted, and that it be placed in Riverside. Action in the matter will probably be taken at the same time that the Miranda fountain matter is passed upon.

## A NEW PAROCHIAL SCHOOL.

LAYING OF A CORNERSTONE IN ST. AGNES'S PARISH.

The cornerstone of the new parochial school of St. Agnes's Church, on East Forty-fourth Street and Third Avenue, was laid yesterday afternoon by Archbishop Corrigan. The ceremonies were of the simplest character, and were witnessed by a large crowd.

Before the ceremonies the Archbishop confirmed a class of 150 children in St. Agnes's Church, 143 East Forty-third Street.

The new school building, which will cost \$80,000, will be sixty-two feet front, and seventy feet deep. It will be five stories in height, and will be built of graystone and brick, with terracotta trimmings. Although it was commenced before the statute was passed, it will comply with the new law requiring all buildings of this character to be fire-proof. One thousand children can be accommodated in the new building. It will be ready for occupancy on Nov. 1, 1892.

Among the clergy present yesterday were Vicar-General Farley, the Rev. Dr. Joseph F. Mooney, Chancellor of the diocese; Father McSweeney of St. Bridget's Church, Father Powers of All Saints' Church, Father Flood of St. John's Church, Father Henley of St. Bernard's Church, Father Campbell, Provincial of the Jesuit Order, and Abbot Edelbrock of the Order of St. Benedict, St. Anthony's Abbey.

The Young Men's Literary Union of St. Agnes's, the Order of the Holy Name, and Empire Council No. 14 of the Catholic Benevolent Legion took part in the ceremonies.

## EAST SIDE PICTURE EXHIBITION.

VALUABLE PAINTINGS WHICH POOR PEOPLE MAY LOOK AT.

There was a private view yesterday afternoon of the loan exhibition of paintings by the University Settlement Society at the corner of Allen and Grand Streets. The object of the society is to elevate the social condition of residents of the lower east side and of the tenement-house district. This exhibition of paintings is a step in this direction. The paintings can be viewed free of charge for two weeks. The opening night will soon be announced.

The pictures are loaned from the private galleries of wealthy up-town citizens. Among the canvases are some of the best in the private collections of this town. The pictures are insured for \$150,000.

The committee of the University Settlement Society consists of A. C. Bernhelm, R. R. Bowker, and Mrs. Henry Villard. The Local Management Committee is composed of persons connected with various educational and labor organizations. Its members are John McG. Goodale, J. K. Faulding, Theodore Miller, C. B. Stover, Edward King, and Fred Schaeffer.