

NEW STATUE IS UNVEILED

City Accepts Bronze Group of Washington and Lafayette.

President Guggenheimer, French Consul General, and Gen. King Speak—
The Gift of Mr. Rouss.

The bronze statue group of Washington and Lafayette, by Bartholdi, which has been presented to the city by Charles Broadway Rouss, was unveiled yesterday afternoon in West One Hundred and Fourteenth Street, at the junction of Morningside and Manhattan Avenues.

The group has been erected in a position which displays it in a more conspicuous manner than the majority of the public statues of the city. It is on a plain pedestal, at present without inscription, and is surrounded by a circular inclosed space prettily laid out with flower beds. There was a large concourse of people present at the unveiling yesterday. The speakers and a few others were on a small stand, but the majority had seats in front of the monument.

W. D'H. Washington acted as presiding officer, and in the course of some brief introductory remarks said that the group was designed to perpetuate an immortal friendship, a friendship builded and warmed on the altar of liberty. Mr. Washington then introduced Gen. Horatio C. King, who presented the group to the city on behalf of the donor.

In the course of an address, which was frequently interrupted with applause, Gen. King outlined the story of the coming of Lafayette to America. In speaking of the condition of affairs when Lafayette arrived in this country, Gen. King said:

"It was such as to shake the confidence in final victory of the most sanguine. The campaigns in New York and New Jersey shrouded the bravest hearts in gloom, while the cause of liberty was abandoned by vast numbers of those who had pledged their allegiance to their oppressors. The fire in the rear has always been more depressing to the loyal patriot in every war in the life of this Nation than the armed enemy at the front. History repeats itself, and there have been found, down to the present day, vast numbers who stand ready to embarrass the Government in its efforts to sustain the honor of the flag."

Speaking of the help that France extended to the American Revolutionists, Gen. King said: "The memory of those days never ought to be, and never will be, forgotten. However strained our relations with France may become, I do not believe that we shall ever go so far as to cross swords with her."

Randolph Guggenheimer, President of the Municipal Council, in accepting the group on behalf of the city, said that he was glad to be able to state that it was a distinct addition to the art treasures of New York. Mr. Guggenheimer went on to say:

"No greater benefit, from a public standpoint, can be conferred upon an American community than that which marks in imperishable bronze or marble the glory of our historic past. The pre-eminence of the American spirit and the stability of our institutions depend upon the inspiration which has come down to us from the founders of the American Republic. The star of American republicanism and prosperity will set in darkness when American boys and girls will cease to be instructed in those superb lessons of self-reliance and National independence which were taught to America and the world by the united genius of Washington and Lafayette."

"This beautiful statue is a National object lesson the value of which cannot be overestimated. It represents and keeps alive our memories of the historic relations of friendship and mutual esteem which existed between the French and the American revolutionary forces. It will proclaim with voiceless eloquence the unforgotten fact that France sent not only a message of cheer across the Atlantic to the first Republic of the Western World, but expended, on behalf of this Nation, its richest blood and treasure. The American people will never be so ungrateful as to forget the services rendered to America in her hour of need by the gallant General whose name is perpetuated in almost every city throughout the United States beside that of the first President of this Republic."

"In behalf of the City of New York I officially accept this statue and transfer it to the care and custody of the Park Department."

It had been expected that Ambassador Cambon of France would be present, but he was prevented at the last minute from attending, and asked Edmond Bruwaert, the French Consul General, to represent him. In the course of a short speech, M. Bruwaert mentioned the usual habit of a debtor of crossing to the other side of the street when he sees his creditor approaching. The United States, the speaker declared, was not like this kind of debtor. It showed gratitude, which was as rare a thing among countries as among individuals, and such a spectacle as was to be seen nowhere else in the world.

The statue was then unveiled by Mr. Washington and M. Bruwaert amid loud applause.

In the evening members of Revolutionary and historical societies attended a meeting in Carnegie Hall, where addresses were made commemorating the anniversary of the battle of Lexington and Lafayette's departure for America. Gen. Horatio C. King presided in place of William B. Hornblower, who was ill. Addresses were made by Mrs. Donald McLean, Edmond Bruwaert, the French Consul General; Gen. Henry Kyd Douglass of Baltimore, and Prof. Adolphe Cohen. Edward Markham read an original poem, and Earl Gulick, the boy soprano, sang several solos. Expressions of regret at not being present were received from President McKinley, Père Hyacinthe, and William J. Bryan.

ALLEGED FORGER ON TRIAL.

Charged with Raising \$100,000 on Unused Virginia Bonds.

Julius Schroeter, who has been in the Tombs since December under indictment for forgery in the first degree, was placed on trial before Judge Newburger in the Court of General Sessions yesterday. The day was spent in securing eleven jurors.

Schroeter is forty-three years old and lives at 4 Tiffany Park, Forest Hill, N. J. He is charged with forging the signatures of an ex-Treasurer and an ex-Auditor of the State of Virginia to blank printed bonds and raising nearly \$100,000 upon them. These bonds were ordered printed by the Virginia State authorities eighteen years ago, but through some misunderstanding the work was not accepted from the printers and was in course of time sold by them for waste paper.

Schroeter is alleged to have obtained \$38,000 from Ladenburg, Thalman & Co., and amounts almost as large from the Seaboard National Bank and the Importers and Traders' National Bank. Mrs. Grace Greensward, who was his housekeeper, and who was referred to as the "mysterious woman" in the case during the time she was held at the House of Detention, is to be a witness for the prosecution.

MAN CRUSHED BY ELEVATOR.

Firemen Had to Cut Woodwork Away to Release the Body.

James Crocker, an elevator conductor in the Franklin Building, 186 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, was crushed to death there yesterday morning. He was fifty years old, and lived at the Gilbert House, Park Row, Manhattan.

The elevator did not run smoothly, so, after carrying up one load of passengers, Crocker climbed to the top of the car, on the eighth floor, to fix things. That was the last seen of him alive. The elevator, run by Charles K. Cazlett, took Miss Katie Chamberlain, a stenographer, up to the fourth floor at 9:20 o'clock. She noticed that Crocker's car was stalled between the fourth and fifth floors, and that the legs of a man were dangling over the top of the car. She gave the alarm. The body was found to be so firmly wedged between the elevator and the shaft that the services of the men of Fire Truck No. 10 had to be requisitioned to chop away the woodwork and release it.

Mrs. Blake of New Bedford, Mass., an aunt of Crocker, went to Brooklyn on Wednesday night to place her son in the navy. Yesterday she sent her son with a note to Crocker saying she was stopping at the Cortland House, and would like to see him before she returned home. Young Blake reached the Franklin Building just as the firemen were removing Crocker's body from the elevator.

Ecumenical Congress Tickets.

Delegates and missionaries, who are attending the Ecumenical Conference, are expected to exchange their delegates' card for special admission tickets to the National welcome meeting Saturday night and the other meetings of the conference. The exchange may be made on Friday between 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. and Saturday between 9 A. M. and 2 P. M. at the headquarters of the Hospitality Committee, in Carnegie Hall.