

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PLANS FOR NEW HOME.

Marble Palace Will Be on Site of Old Real Estate Exchange.

The new Chamber of Commerce Building, to be erected on the site of the old Real Estate Exchange, at Liberty Street and Liberty Place, will be constructed of white Vermont marble, with a white granite base. The design is classical and is monumental in character.

The first floor, which will be some five steps above the street, is designed to be used as a banking room and will be handsomely finished with mahogany fittings and marble mosaic floor.

The main entrance to the building will be at the left, or Broadway, side of the Liberty Street façade, and opens into a large vestibule, which in turn admits past the elevators into a monumental hall and stairway, twenty feet wide and eighty feet long, extending through two stories. It will be built of Caen stone and marble, and will have an overlooking gallery at one end.

The main room, or "Chamber of Commerce," opens directly off this gallery, and also from the platform at the head of the stairway. It will occupy the entire second floor except the space taken by the stairway, and will be 90 feet long, 60 feet broad, and 30 feet high. There will be no windows in the lower part of the room, the light being admitted through an enormous skylight in the ceiling, which opens into a court of equal dimensions extending through to the roof. There will also be windows in the walls at a height of some twenty feet above the floor, on account of the large wall space necessary for hanging the collection of portraits which the Chamber has been acquiring for many years.

The President's desk will be at the side of the room opposite the entrance doors. The Chamber will be wainscoted with fixed seats, the walls above them covered with paintings, and the floor of white marble partially covered with rugs.

The third story will be occupied by the Executive and committee rooms of the Chamber, while the fourth story will be a reading room, clubroom, and commercial library, with a small kitchen and serving room for luncheons attached.

The architect is James B. Baker and the builder Charles T. Wills.

LUNCHEON TO CUBAN DELEGATES.

Visitors Toasted by Members of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Cuban delegates, who are visiting New York, with the exception of Dr. Diego Tamayo, took luncheon yesterday upon the invitation of R. A. C. Smith with the members of the Chamber of Commerce. Preceding the luncheon there was a short reception, J. Edward Simmons, Vice President of the Chamber, presiding and introducing the guests, who spoke in turn a few words to their hosts.

"For over a hundred years," said Mr. Simmons, in introducing the visitors, "Cuba has been an important factor in the affairs of the Nation. We earnestly hope that this visit may result in adjusting on an amicable basis the differences between Cuba and the United States.

"We hope soon to welcome the Republic of Cuba as a sister. [Applause.] May she take her place in the great sisterhood of republics."

Gen. Domingo Mendez Capote responded in Spanish through Mr. Smith as interpreter, expressing his thanks for the kind sentiments expressed by a body representative of a commerce that had come to be the greatest in the world. "But what has moved me most," he concluded, "is the expression for a new republic, and I congratulate myself that we will soon see Cuba a country as free as this."

The delegation boarded the Ward liner Havana at Pier 16 East River, at a little before the sailing time, 3 o'clock, yesterday afternoon. The vessel, which carries on this trip the largest cargo ever carried to Cuba on a single ship, was decorated with the code flags in honor of the distinguished passengers.

The delegates came here a week ago by way of Tampa for the purpose of finding out what the Platt amendment really means.

Man Killed at Fire Headquarters.

Patrick O'Connell, fifty-eight years old, living at 1,723 Webster Avenue, the Bronx, was instantly killed last evening by falling down the elevator shaft at Fire Headquarters, in East Sixty-seventh Street. O'Connell was a stoker of the fireboat company stationed at the foot of West Thirteenth Street, but had been ill for some time, and was recently detailed to run the elevator at Fire Headquarters. He was on the third floor of the building last evening when some one rang for the elevator. Not noticing that the elevator had been hoisted about five feet above the level of the third floor, O'Connell stepped into the opening and fell down the shaft. His skull was fractured.

Coach Team Hurt by a Runaway Horse.

The coach Pioneer had another exciting time yesterday. On its way to Yonkers from the Waldorf it was run into by a runaway horse hitched to a wagon. Three of the coach horses were hurt, the wagon smashed, and the runaway horse slightly bruised. The accident happened near Yonkers at the foot of a hill. R. W. Reeves, who was tooling the coach, saw the runaway dashing down the road. No one was in the wagon. He tried to turn the leaders across the road. They answered to the bit slowly and were struck by the runaway. Four horses were knocked into a ditch. The Pioneer's horses were able to finish out their trip.