

THE COLUMBUS STATUE.

SAFE IN PORT ON BOARD THE TRANSPORT GARIGLIANO.

There was rejoicing among the residents of the Italian colony yesterday over the arrival of the naval transport of the Italian Government, the Garigliano, with a clean bill of health, and having on board the Columbus monument, the final destination of which is the circle at Fifty-ninth Street and Eighth Avenue. The Garigliano, when she had cleared Quarantine, was met by members of the Columbus Monument Association and a delegation of prominent Italian residents, who had gone down the bay on a steamer specially chartered for the occasion. Among those present were Signori G. Fazzio, F. Malferrari, F. Frugone, L. Brachierai, E. Valpi, Prof. C. F. Greco, J. N. Malferrari, V. Sarace, Urbano Spinnetta, C. Bettini di Moise, Dr. Asselta, Henry Volpi, Dr. Ferro, C. A. Baratonni, L. Roverai, and Ernest Tealdi.

Gaetano Russo, the sculptor and designer of the statue of Columbus, was taken in charge by a special committee consisting of Cavaliere Barsotti, the President of the Monument Association, C. A. Baratonni, Vice President; Virgilio Del Genovese, Director, and Dr. Luigi Roversi, editor of *Il Progresso Italo-Americano*, and escorted to the Hotel Riocadonna, where he, in company with the officers of the Garigliano, was entertained at dinner last evening.

In the afternoon Signor Russo was taken to Central Park by Cavaliere Barsotti to look at the proposed site of the statue. With the site and its surroundings Signor Russo expressed himself as thoroughly delighted.

The transfer of the statue from the Garigliano, which lies at Pier 14 at the foot of Fulton Street, to Central Park, at Fifty-ninth Street and Eighth Avenue, is to take place on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The Monument Association proposes to constitute the event an immense festival occasion. Every effort will be made by the Italian colony to make a great show, and it is promised that in addition to the civic societies there shall be as many as sixty or seventy military companies in line. Capt. Louis Wendel, commanding the First Battery, artillery, First Brigade, National Guard, has tendered his organization as escort of honor, and the battery will also fire a salute at Central Park. The several portions of the statue will be transported on floats, which are to be drawn by teams of twenty-four horses each, furnished by the Adams Express Company.

In the course of the exercises, over which the Italian Consul General will preside, addresses will be made by President Barsotti, Dr. Roversi, and Dr. Asselta, the latter speaking on behalf of the Italian societies in New-York City.

CALL THE CONFERENCE A FIASCO.

METHODIST MINISTERS CRITICISE FREELY THEIR BRETHREN'S WORK.

Methodist ministers of Brooklyn are disposed to severely criticise the work of the last General Conference, and a meeting was held yesterday in Association Hall, Brooklyn, to discuss "What the General Conference Did Not Do." Religious services preceded the discussion.

The Rev. J. O. Peck, D. D., began the discussion. He said that if the General Conference had done nothing more than to prove the ship of Methodism sound for another four years' voyage, it had accomplished much. It had not districted Bishops, or done away with the Elders, or admitted women, or abolished the itineracy, and it had not repealed the section on social amusements. He was not disposed to criticise its work.

Dr. Beller, who was more inclined to be caustic, expressed himself as being of the opinion that Methodism had no reason to pride itself on its conservatism, and he thought the last General Conference could have done better than to dodge so many issues. Dr. Leonard, who favors the admission of women to the conference, thought the question could be brought up anew without hampering amendments.

Dr. J. W. Johnson of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church is not pleased with the conference's work, and he let it be known. He declared that its work had been perfunctory and useless. What had already been done was simply approving reports of departments, but when it came to measures the delegates would not face the issue.

"The Bishops," he said, "should have been districted, instead of gallivanting about the country. The Church should lead in social questions, instead of being behind. On the question of amusements the conference did not dare to take a stand. The pastors of city churches see their young people leaving them and their churches growing weaker through the delay. The conference will go down to history as the fiasco conference with not a thing to recommend it."

Although ex-Judge George Reynolds tried to smooth the matter over, many ministers expressed themselves in much the same way as did Dr. Johnson, and after the meeting he was congratulated. Another meeting will be held in the near future by the Brooklyn ministers, and a rampus is looked for.