SPLENDID MEMORIAL TOMB TO COLUMBUS IS PROPOSED

Movement Begun for Erection of a Mausoleum, Topped by a Great Light, on the Caribbean Sea at Santo Domingo, to be Built by Subscriptions from the Twenty-one American Republics and Canada.

MOVEMENT has been begun to get the peoples of the United. States, of the 20 other republics of North, Central and South America and of Canada, to erect by popular subscription a splendid Pan-American tomb and memorial for Christopher Columbus in the city of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, where his remains are declared now to rest.

It is proposed that \$500,000 be raised, and, if more detailed study makes this seem feasible, to limit each subscription to 50 cents, so that the memorial may represent a great humber of the sons and daughters of that new world found by the Genoese.

The Dominican Republic itself launched a plan about 20 years ago to build a huge tomb and monument, and dedicated a superb site in the southern part of the city of Santo Domingo, on the coral coast of the Caribbean sea, which today is a park known as the Plaza Columbina. A system of taxation was devised to defray the cost of the intended memorial, but the plan was abandoned owing to internal political differences. Instead, a marble mausoleum was erected in the cathedral in Santo Domingo, in which, in the opinion of numerous historical authorities, the remains of Columbus now repose.

The Plaza Columbina is still available, and it is proposed to raise on this Pan-American memorial. The

plan is to construct a massive tomb for the base, something like the Grant Tomb, and then to sweep into the air with a superstructure, on the top of which will be placed one of the most powerful lights in the world, to be known as Columbus Light. The plan further provides for an endowment fund for the perpetual maintenance of the light.

The Plaza Columbina faces the open Caribbean, and thence one looks south toward the far-distant main coast of South America and southwest toward Colon, the Atlantic entrance to the Panama canal. Many ships in the West India trade lay their courses so that the crews would see the rays of Columbus Light.

The campaign for the Pan-American memorial was begun one year ago by William E. Pulliam, at that time general receiver of Dominican customs, a post which he occupied for six years, having been appointed by Presi-dent Roosevelt. During his residence in Santo Domingo Mr. Pulliam became greatly interested in the controversy which has been waged at various times over the resting place of the remains of Columbus, Both Santo Doremains. After detailed investigation and study of the many authorities. Mr. Pulliam became convinced that those numerous experts are correct who hold that the remains are in Santo Domingo, He then conceived the idea of the Columbus Light. Pulliam laid his plan before President Jose Bordas, and the Dominican chief executive in reply expressed keen interest.



look out upon the anchorage where the humiliated and degraded admiral, divested of his authority by Bobadilla, embarked for Spain in October, 1500, in irons, The mausoleum plan failed of completion; in fact, nothing was ac-complished, but as a substitute a mon-ument was areated in the cothedral.

ument was erected in the cathedral, and in a crypt provided therefor the remains are now preserved. At that time it was understood that the arrangement was temporary, and at a later date the original scheme of building an imposing tomb would be carried out. While the monument in the cathedral is ornate, it is not com-mensurate with the greatness of Col-umbus nor does it constitute a fitting umbus, nor does it constitute a fitting or sufficient mark of respect for such world character.

a world character. Furthermore, the remains contained in the leaden casket in which they were discovered by accident in the ca-thedral in the year 1877, were not hermetically sealed and placed away for all time. Upon occasions, and not infrequently, the casket is withdrawn from its resting place, the top re-moved, and the precious dust and frag-ments of bones exposed to the air and the gaze and actual handling of the the gaze and actual handling of the curious. This, it would seem chantle

not be, Every school child is taught that it was the dying wish of Columbus that his mortal remains be carried to and laid away in the country he discovered and by what might seem providential intervention his wish has been re-spected through the centuries that have passed, notwithstanding the dehave passed, notwithstanding the de-liberate plan of the Spanish authori-ties in 1795 to remove the remains to Havana at the time Santo Domingo ceded to France. ht, and I

ashes of the illustrious Genoese, the discoverer of America. I assure you that I will study the plans which you have indicated to me bearing upon this subject, and I am in hopes that your very beautiful idea may be brought to a realization. I will give you advice in due time as to whatever the government may dewhatever the government may de-termine to do in this affair. "From the conversations which I have had with men of importance both

in the United States and in Santo Domingo," said Mr. Pulliam, "I am convinced that widespread popular enthuboth in this country and in siasm, Latin America, will greet the plan for honoring the man who gave to us of the western hemisphere the lands which are now our homes. I believe that if the maximum subscription were kept at a very low figure, say 50 cents, the money needed would be raised in a surprisingly short time. It seems a reproach to us citizens of the New World that there is no memorial truly worthy of so commanding a world

Bones in Unsealed Casket

"In the proposed Pan-American memorial the bones of Columbus would at last be at rest, for they are not at rest in the mausoleum in the cathedral in Santo Domingo. By this statement I mean that the bones are being handled by the curious several, times a I myself have handled the year. ch they 1 ne



PULLIAM E EWING S remains, having sent a request for it.

Still another small fragment was taken by the engineer in charge of the exhumation, which passed into the possession of G. W. Stokes of New York. In 1901 this fragment was presented by Mr. Stokes to the Lenox library, being preserved in a small glass vial.

"It has been proposed that the remains of Columbus be taken from Santo Domingo to San Francisco next year in order that they may be shown at the Pan-American exposition. But hostility to this plan has developed in the Dominican republic, it being felt that it would be sacrilegious to make an exhibit of the remains, while it is pointed out that there is danger of some accident happening, by which the remains might be lost or destroyed."

The Bulletin of the Pan-American Union some time ago printed a detailed account of the finding of the remains of Columbus in Santo Domingo. with some discussion of the controversy over the Dominican and Spanish claims, the article in question being written by Enrique Deschamps, consul general of the Dominican republic at Madrid, who cites various authorities in support of the

Senor Deschamps opens his article

with the declaration that "the con-

sensus of unbiased public opinion is

that the real remains of Columbus are

those which rest in the cathedral of

Santo Domingo." After explaining how the remains of Columbus were

brought to Santo Domingo about 1537

and buried in the cathedral, Senor

In 1795 Spain ceded the island of Santo Domingo to France under article 9 of the treaty of Basilea, and Lieu-tenant General Gabriel de Aristizabal of the royal navy thinking, as became

of the royal navy thinking, as became a soldier and a Spaniard, that it would not be worthy of his country to leave the revered remains of the discoverer of America under another flag, made an earnest endeavor to have them re-moved to the capital of the island of Cuba at that time under the sovereign-ty of Spain.

ty of Spain. There was no tablet, inscription, or mark of any kind on the tomb of Co-lumbus, and the Spaniards, when they undertook, during the following year,

the exhumation, as they thought of the remains of the first admiral, had

nothing to guide them other than tra-

dition which said "that the remains of Christopher Columbus had been said to rest in the chancel of the cathedral on the side of the gospel, in the place where the throne of the bishop used to

where the throne of the bishop used to be placed." These indications appearing unques-tionable, the exhumers of 1795 made their search "on the side of the gos-pel" and found the remains, which they removed to Havana. The new exhum-ers of 1877, of whom we will speak later, guided by no other clue, found the same "stone casket hollow of a

the same "stone casket, hollow, of a

cubic shape," though empty, its con-tents having been removed at the end

ered there only a few days before-they found, not the remains of Diego, which, as will be seen, had really been taken to Havana, but those of Christo-ober instead

pher instead. The record of the exhumation in 1795

makes no reference to any authentic document setting forth that at the place where said anonymous remains

of the preceding century.

Deschamps continues as follows:

claims.

ty of Spain.

"On December 20, 1795, a casket was opened situated on the presbytcrium beside the gospel, in the main wall and step before the principal altar, about one cubic yard in size, and there-in were found some plates about a third of a yard long, of lead, indicating that it had contained a box of said metal, and some sections of shin bones and a number of other parts of a deceased person, which were gath-ered up on a tray, together with all the earth contained in the same, which, from fragments mixed therewith, were recognized as remains of said body." Therefore, according to the record,

recognized as remains of said body." Therefore, according to the record, there were exhumed the remains of "some deceased person," supposed to have been those of Christopher Colum-bus, this supposition being based solely on tradition, which had it that the remains of the first admiral rested on that side and in that part of the presbyterium. presbyterium.

As was very natural at that histori-As was very natural at that instor-cal moment, no protest whatever re-specting said removal was heard in Santo Domingo. In its place, however, a vague and uncertain rumor gained circulation in the capital to the effect that the remains of Columbus were still in the presbyterium of the cathe-

still in the presbyterium of the cather dral. The enlightened people of the coun-try paid no attention to the unfounded rumor, basing their incredulity on the general belief that on the right side of the presbyterium of the cathedral the only remains were those of Chris-topher Columbus, and that the act of his exhumation having been made pub-lic and solemn there could be no doubt that they had been removed to Havama. Yet, in the face of all this skepticism, the traditional rumor persisted year after year, though vaguely, there being no one interested in affirming or deny-ing it. To that rumor, then, is due in part the find of September 10, 1877. Senor Deschamps explains that on April 77, 1877, repair work was begun in the cathedral. All the work was in the cathedral. All the work was done under the immediate supervision of Canon Billini. On May 14 a metallic coffin was found containing human remains, the remains being visible from the outside. Without opening the coffin, Canon Billini ordered work suspended until the arrival of the archbishop, then traveling in the interior. In June, Carlos Nouel, a Dominican historical authority, was permitted by the canon to examine the casket. Senor Nouel found a plate bearing this inscription: "The Admiral Luis Colum-the archbishop invited the civil and military authorities, and the consular corps to be present at the opening of the casket of Luis Columbus.

On this occasion it was decided that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to explore the cathedral further, attention being called to the ancient rumor that the bones of Christopher Columbus were still in the cathedral. Accordingly, on September 8. under supervision of Canon Billini, further excavations were undertaken.

Two days later the excavation work disclosed the end of a box. Canon Billini again suspended operations, while the archbishop, minister of the interior and Italian consul general were summoned. On their arrival the hole was enlarged and the box came plainly to Its top was covered with the dust of centuries, but the words, "First Admiral," abbreviated, forming part of an inscription, could be read.

The examination was again suspendd, while the cabinet ministers, municipal council, consular corps and other officials were summoned. In the presence of these officials, on the afternoon of that day, as Senor Deschamps explains, the box, which proved to be a leaden casket, was taken from its long resting place and opened. The remains were inside, while inscriptions, both on the outside and inside of the cover, proved, to the satisfaction of those present, that these were the bones of Columbus. On the outside of the cover, in abbreviation, were the words: "Discov-erer of America-The First Admiral." On the inside of the cover, in abbreviation, except the name, were the "Illustrious and Noble Personwords: age Don Christopher Columbus." Among the remains was a silver plate bearing the words "Christopher Columbus." On the sides of the casket were the initials "C. C. A.," supposed to stand for "Christopher Columbus, Admiral."

Widespread Interest in Project

Mr. Pulliam also wrote fully about the project to John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American union at Washington. Mr. Barrett has not officially gone on vecord as to his views, but in reply to Mr. Pulliam did express his personal interest. In an address delivered by Mr. Barrett in 1912 in Washington before the Knights of Columbus he emphasized the necessity of a proper memorial to the discoverer of the western hemisphere.

There is to be a Pan-American conference at Santiago, Chile, this fall, and there is a possibility that Mr. Pulliam's plan may be introduced. Former Pan-American conferences have considerad in general the idea of erecting some form of a memorial to Columbus.

Mr. Pulliam has further discussed the proposal with American business men, capitalists, and steamship representatives, all of whom he has found warmly in favor of hls idea. Besides President Bordas, prominent Dominicans who have welcomed the plan are Senor Francisco J. Peynado, formerly minister of his country at Washington. and Don Emiliano Tejera, ex-minister of foreign relations, for many years one of the leading men of his land, and an authority on Columbus, Dominican newspapers have reviewed the plan in a friendly spirit.

Mr. Pulliam's letters outlining the plan to President Bordas and Mr. Barrett were largely similar. To Mr. Barrett he wrote as follows:

rett he wrote as follows: During my residence in Santo Do-mingo I have often thought that at this late date there should no longer be any question as to the identity and final resting place of the bones of Columbus, the discoverer of the new world, and this leads to a suggestion which I respectfully present for the consideration of the Pan-American union, assuming it to be a matter ki which the governing board of that or-ganization would be interested. From my personal investigation of the subject, and as the result of read-ing several articles that have been witten thereon, it would appear that

witten thereon, it would appear that the opinion is unanimous on the part of disinterested investigators that the remains of Columbus tre in Santo Do-mingo, where they have lain continuously since brought from Spain about 1537. Spain, I understand, disputes the contention.

the contention. Mr. William E. Curtis, the first di-rector of the ⁷ n-American union and a well-known newspaper writer, in-vestigated the facts, which were used by him in a syndicated press letter in the first part of 1908 and appeared in the Chicago Record-Herald. He in-dicated satisfaction with the chaims of Santo Domingro Mr. Frederick A Santo Domingo, Mr. Frederick A. Ober, the writer and authority on the

West Indies, also has expressed him-self to the same effect, and presents the facts in one of his volumes. About 20 years ago, or at the time of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, and the Col-umbian exposition at Chicago, the Do-minican covernment coursed to he so umbian exposition at Chicago, the Do-minican government caused to be set aside and vested in a Juntar Columbing a tract of land in the heart of the city, abutting the Caribbean wa, for the purpose of erecting thereon a mau-soleum in which would be placed the remains of Columbus. The location is ideal and pecaliarly appropriate. It overlooks the open roadstead of the sea so often traveled by Columbus on his voyages of dis-covery, and from the site one may

there will be no difference of opinion on that point, that a mausoleum wor-thy of holding the remains of Colum-bus should be erected, corresponding in a way to the mausoleum of Napo-

The Remains

society.

ound the sarcophagus.

which this is a translation:

President Borda's Promise

Mr. Pulliam's letter to President

Eordas was dated on August 4 of last

year. A few days later he received a

reply from the chief executive, of

I have had the satisfaction of re-

cal

of Columbus

were found in the Vault to the right

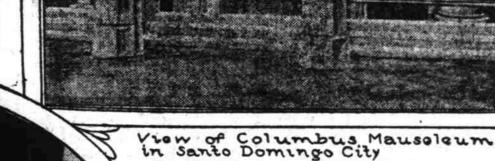
leon in Les Invalides and the Grant Tomb at Riverside. The construction of such a monument should be the con-cern of each of the 21 republics now occupying the territory in North and South America, and likewise Canada, for the fact must be appreciated that many, if not almost all the other, coun-tries have received far greater ulti-mate benefit from the stupendous work of Columbus than Santo Domin-

mate benefit from the supernoos work of Columbus than Santo Domin-go. Hence it would be in every way fitting for all America to join with Santo Domingo in paying this belated homage in the place so beautifully called La Cuna de America to the original blazer of the trail.

The movement to construct such a mausoleum doubtless would meet with prompt and hearty approval and gen-

pose has not been sealed, the result being that visiting officials and persons of prominence are allowed to the sacred remains of the great touch

figure as Columbus.



de la A.

Chor 3

Finding of the Bones

were being made to the cathedral in

Santo Domingo, a casket, whose exist-

ence had been unknown, was found.

The casket which the Spaniards had

taken had borne no identifying marks.

But this newly found casket bore in-

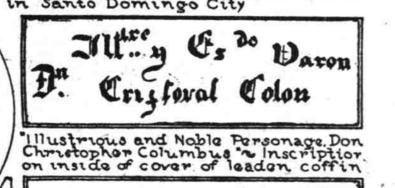
scriptions both on the outside and in-

side covers, which made it plain to

every one that it contained the re-

mains of Columbus, while the casket which had been taken by the Span-

"In 1877, however, while repairs



Discoveror of America. First Admiral "Inscription on outside of cover

of the preceding century. But as they knew what the first ex-humers had not known, namely that the remains of the family of Columbus rested in the same presbyterium in as many different caskets, while search-ing for those of Don Diego, it being supposed that Christopher's were in Havana, and Luis' having been discov-ered there only a few days before that the bones were then in Havana. "At the time of the finding of the casket, in 1877, in handling the bones and dust some fragments fell upon the floor of the cathedral. These fragments were taken by various per-sons. The Italian consul was one of those who picked up a pinch of the precious dust, which he sent to the town hall of Genos, the native city of Columbus. This dust now reposes in an urn in the town hall, and there is no question in the minds of the authorities there, as there was no question in the minds of the Italian consul, that this dust is part of the remains of Columbus,

Scattered Fragments

place where said anonymous remains were being removed those of the dis-coverer were located, and if such doc-ument had existed the clerk would have assuredly made a note of the fact, as he could not have been un-aware of its great importance. Such a document would have accounted for the absolute absence of inscriptions on the loose plates thereof, which in fact were all that remained of said casket, as stated in the record. This record, signed by Jose F. Hidalgo, the clerk of the chamber of royal Audencia of Santo Domingo, reads as follows: "In 1878 the archbishop of Santo Domingo sent to Pope Leo XIII another bit of the dust which was obtained when the casket was opened a second time. The University of Pavia, in Italy, which Columbus attended as student, also got a fragment of the

DRAWINGS BY HOFFMANN, FAMOUS WRITER

HREE caricatures preserved at the City Historical Museum at Leipsic, Germany, have just been identified as the work of E. T. A. Hoffmann, the famous writer, whose name has become especially familiar in this country of late years owing to the opera, "Tales of Hoffmann," so frequently given in American cities, the libretto of which is based on his weird stories.

lards doubtless contained the bones of Besides writing, Hoffmann was an Diego, "The formal opening of the casket able artist, excelling in particular as a caricaturist, yet the examples of his took place on September 10, 1877, in work in Leipsic have been credited for years to another. The discovery of the real history is especially inter-esting just now, when all Germans are much interested in their war of the presence of high officials of the ninican government and of the foreign consuls, including the American and Spanish representatives. The Spanish consul, Don Jose Manuel de independence against Napoleon 100 years ago, for the Hoffmann carica-tures were made during that struggle, and all three of them lampoon Na-Echeverri, was convinced that the remains of Columbus had only then been found, and he so reported to the king of Spain. For this he was recalled in poleon and France. disgrace, as Spain wished to insist

That they were made by Hoffmann was discovered by Herr Friedrich Schultze of Leipsic, who tells all about it in the German magazine, Das Literarische Echo. Herr Schultze found a letter written by Hoffmann to Kunz. a Leipsic publisher, dated March 24, 1814, in which he mentioned all three of the caricatures. Hoffmann wrote: Men who suffer from gout usually have an excellent temper. Often when my sufferings are acute I write "con amore," but if the pain becomes alto-gether too cruel I take up my pencil and draw caricatures on events of the day. Baumgartner has published the following caricatures of mine: Picture showing Dame Galila (France) freed by the allied powers from the devil that had possessed her. One showing Dame Galila rewarding the physicians whom she had harmed while possessed of the devil, and prom-ising them still further presents. Joachim will soon publish another called "The Exequies of the Universal Monarchy." a Leipsic publisher, dated March 24,

Strong Body of Evidence

Among the authorities from whom Senor Deschamps quotes in support of the Dominican claim is the Liguria Society of Genoese History, which investigated the Columbus controversy, its secretary reporting in 1878 as follows:

With the evidence now available, the remains which were discovered in the cathedral of Santo Domingo on September 10, 1877, must be considered as the true mortal remains of Colum-bus, but not those others which were oved to Havana in December of 1795.

Senor Deschamps quotes Adolfo Cronau, the historian, as follows:

Both the author of this work and the witnesses left the place convinced that the venerable remains of the great discoverer rest in the cathedral of Santo Domingo.

The Spanish writer, Dona Emilia Serrano, is quoted by Senor Deschamps thus:

The remains of the immortal naviga-The remains of the immortal naviga-tor which have given rise to such con-troversies shall be for ages and ages the prized treasure of the cathedral of Santo Domingo, its most precious jew-el, and to this shrine future genera-tions will repair to render homage to Columbus, the man who represented in his day and age the greatest and best type of universal genius. Count Roselly de Lorgues, historian, is quoted as follows:

is quoted as follows:

These subsequent discoveries leave no room for further doubt. These are finally the true relics of him who re-vealed to us the immensity and mani-fold wonders of the earth.

The late Thomas C. Dawson, who was American minister to the Dominican republic. Chile, Colombia and Brazil, is quoted thus by Senor Deschamps:

As regards the remains of Christo-pher Columbus, there can be no doubt that they still rest in the little and ancient Dominican city.

In the first named of the three the

"devil" is none other than Napoleon,

who is shown flying away from the

lady, just out of reach of the bayonets

of the "physicians." In the second

caricature the presents which grateful

France is handing out to her deliverers are territory formely occupied by

Napoleon. Thus, Austria is shown

receiving a basket in which are pack-ages labeled "Trieste," "Fiume," etc.,

Prussia getting another supposed to

contain Danzig and Westphalia, while

The third, representing the burial of

Napoleon's universal monarchy, is the

most elaborate of the three. It was made by Hoffmann for distribution in

England, for which reason the artist

wrote out the title in English below the picture. It shows "universal monarchy" on a hearse being borne

to the grave, followed by Napoleon as

chief mourner,

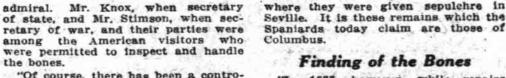
England is demanding free trade,

prompt and hearty approval and gen-eral support, not only from the re-spective governments but the individ-ual nations of America, North and South, My idea is that a fund of not less than \$500,000 easily could be raised by popular subscription and de-voted to the object. Besides the na-tions many societies doubtless readily-would respond among the number the tions many societies doubtless readily-would respond, among the number the Pan-American Union, the Pan-Ameri-can Society of New York, certain Ital-ian societies, and the Spanish Historithe bones. "Of course, there has been a contro-

cal society. As a further tentative suggestion, if the plan were gotten under way, d massive tomb could be erected, and on the same a lighthouse superim-posed and a powarful light installed to guide by night the path of the prts-ent-day perplexed mariner. Each coun-try assisting might supply a marble slab or bronze tablet, suitably in-scribed, to be placed in the interior around the sarcophagus. the mingo being the true remains,

Spain, his remains were interred in the cathedral in Santo Domingo about the year 1537. The remains of his son, Diego, and his grandson, Luis, were also brought from Europe and interred in the cathedral. The island authorities insisted upon taking away the remains of Columbus, and in that year they exhumed what they believed were the remains. They took these to Cuba and buried them in Havana.

ceiving your interesting letter of the fourth instant, and you may be as-sured that the liveliest interest has been awakened in my mind concerning the plan which you suggest—that of erecting in this city, through the co-operation of all the peoples of Amer-ica, a fitting monument in which may be placed for all time the venerable "In January, 1899, after the Spanish-American war, the Spanlards once more exhumed the remains in question, this time taking them to Spain,



The Bones of Columbus

Dor

versy as to whether Santo Domingo or Spain has the bones of Columbus, But any disinterested man who will take trouble to study the question will find that there cannot be a shadow of doubt as to the remains in Santo Do-

"Briefly, the facts are these: In ac-cordance with the testamentary wish of Columbus, who died in 1506 in remained Spanish until 1795, when it was ceded to France. The Spanish