

## STATUARY BUILDING ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION.

The Courier Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup> 1888

"The building erected over the statuary is composed of glass and iron in the form of an irregular octagon, having a length of 40 feet and a depth of 30 feet. The main roof is dome shaped and rises to a lantern, with a roof tapering to a central cast iron foliated final, rising to a height of 27 feet above the ground. The lantern is pleasingly decorated with an ornamental cresting running around the cornice, and the sash lights and margins are glazed in decorative colored and figured glass. The entrances at the north and south ends are marked by boldly projecting gables surmounted by cast-iron finials and crestings and the gable sashes are glazed in plate and decorative glass with cast iron enrichments. The main plate is relieved on the outside by an effective and handsome dentilled spouting and cornice and on the inside by a cut fascia and crown mould. This is supported by eighteen cast iron columns resting on a bluestone base, with octagonal bases and enriched fern leafed capitals picked out in green and gold. The spaces between the columns, to the height of 3 (?) feet, is filled with a solid cast iron panelling ornamented with fleurs-de-lis and clasps and capped by a moulded iron rail, supporting the plate glass sashes which run all around the building, and admit a perfect view of the statuary being obtained whenever the building may be closed. Above the sash is an ornamental iron frieze, which may be opened or closed at will for the purpose s of ventilation. The entrance doors are in pairs, with upper plate glass panels and colored decorative sidelights fitted with amber and nickel furniture and hung with patent hinges, which permit the doors to be opened either way. The floor is well laid with red and white Mitcham tiles, and contrasts well with the internal decoration and coloring. Each statue is protected by a polished brass railing supported by cast-iron moulded newels. The general effect of the coloring, which is harmonious and pleasing, is in tints of terracotta and sage green, picked out in gold. The internal decoration is similar, but the roof is executed in tints of French grey, white and straw color, and the lantern is in addition tastefully decorated in gold and stencilling. The stained glass has been selected and treated so as to avoid any glaring effect, and but serves to throw out by contrast the pure white marble of the statuary. The *ensemble* of the building is effective and forms a fitting protection to the undoubtedly beautiful and valuable works within. All connected with the work have evidently vied with one another in their efforts and fully deserve the many encomiums passed upon the work.

The following are the the names of the various contractors:-

Messrs White and Crowley for the ironwork

Kift, Whitelaw and Ruddock for the painting.

Barrow for the stonework and tiling.

Taylor and Ellis for the the carpentering.

Tweedale and Clydesdale for the plumbing.

The tiles were obtained from Messrs Eyres Brothers of Sturt St.

The whole of the work has been designed and carried out under the supervision of Mr T.E.Molloy , of the office of Mr C,D, Figgis, the well known architect of Sturt St. Mr Molloy was also the designer of the pavilion, which does him infinite credit, the design exhibiting excellent taste being very neat and effective. The trustees were Nevett, Noble Wilson and Stoddart.

*The speakers included the Premier, Gillies, Noble Wilson and the Mayor the Hon. Colonel Smith, who acknowledged in their speeches the contribution of Mr James Service, that through him the opinions of the highest authorities in the world had been obtained.*