

In 1883, after much discussion about design, work on the pedestal's foundation was begun. In 1884 the cornerstone for the pedestal was laid and work progressed. Lack of funds halted the work in March 1885. Lady Liberty remained where she stood on the streets of Paris.

Joseph Pulitzer used his newspaper, *New York World*, to raise the additional funds. Pulitzer made a call for all the citizens of America to reflect the spirit in which the gift was given by offering their support. A promise was made that any donation, no matter the size, would be acknowledged in print by the *New York World*. Pulitzer first made his offer in March. By August roughly 125,000 people contributed over \$100,000. The money raised covered the final cost of the pedestal.

The Statue of Liberty was disassembled into 350 pieces, packed and shipped to the United States arriving in June 1885. Lady Liberty remained in crates until the pedestal was finished in the summer of 1886. On October 28, 1886, the statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World" was officially unveiled at a dedication ceremony. She was a centennial gift only ten years late.

In 1901 a friend of Emma Lazarus, Georgina Schuyler, discovered a copy of *The New Colossus* as she browsed a bookstore. She began an effort to memorialize Lazarus and her poem, which succeeded in 1903 when a plaque bearing the text of the poem was mounted on the inner wall of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the French people, presented as a tribute to America and her democratic values. The Statue of Liberty's iconic image grew beyond a tribute to democracy to a call for democratic action, welcoming those seeking refuge and opportunity. Emma's poem, *The New Colossus*, represented this hope and inspiration that many have experienced at the sight of the Statue of Liberty.

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