

Emma Lazarus (1849-1887)

## The New Colossus

*The poem, which was written in 1883, is graven on a tablet within the pedestal on which the Statue of Liberty stands.*

Not like the brazen<sup>1</sup> giant of Greek fame,

With conquering<sup>2</sup> limbs<sup>3</sup> astride<sup>4</sup> from land to land;

Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand

A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame

5 Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name

Mother of Exiles<sup>5</sup>. From her beacon-hand<sup>6</sup>

Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command

The air-bridged<sup>7</sup> harbor that twin cities frame.

"Keep ancient lands, your storied<sup>8</sup> pomp<sup>9</sup>!" cries she

10 With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled<sup>10</sup> masses yearning<sup>11</sup> to breathe free,

The wretched<sup>12</sup> refuse<sup>13</sup> of your teeming<sup>14</sup> shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost<sup>15</sup> to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

(127 words)

Quelle: <http://www.libertystatepark.com/emma.htm>

<sup>1</sup>**brazen** metal – <sup>2</sup>**to conquer** to take (land) by force – <sup>3</sup>**limb** arm or leg – <sup>4</sup>**astride** with legs wide apart – <sup>5</sup>**Mother of Exiles** in Jewish tradition Rachel is seen as – <sup>6</sup>**beacon** guiding fire – <sup>7</sup>**air-bridged** reference to the newly built Brooklyn Bridge that connects Manhattan and Brooklyn – <sup>8</sup>**storied** legendary – <sup>9</sup>**pomp** showy and splendid ceremony – <sup>10</sup>**huddled** to crowd together – <sup>11</sup>**to yearn** to wish very strongly – <sup>12</sup>**wretched** miserable or extremely sad – <sup>13</sup>unwanted waste, rubbish – <sup>14</sup>**teeming** crowded, busy – <sup>15</sup>**tempest-tost** (old form) tossed, shaken, thrown by a storm