

Highland Park News-Letter

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1907

Shrines of Patriotism

The proposition that has been brought before the National House of Representatives for the appointment of a commission to consider a plan for purchase by the Government of the Grant farm and log cabin in St. Louis county, Mo., deserve careful consideration. In the same connection the Government should take some steps to preserve the home in which Abraham Lincoln spent his boyhood in southern Indiana. Hero worship is not a strong characteristic of the American people, more's the pity, and in these prosaic times of money getting and the dedication of "solid substance" and thing material, most people who do not give thought to such things are disposed to look upon even the sentiment that prompts the preservation of the memories of our great men as immaterial and of little importance. But when we are building monuments on battle fields, establishing and equipping halls of fame and organizing memorial associations, some consideration should be given to spots such as the Lincoln and the Grant homes in Indiana and in Missouri, and the sacredness that should attach to them. There is no nation of people on the face of the earth in whose hearts the fire of patriotism burns so steadily and so unquenchable as in the hearts of the American people, though not all the people of America continuously make public proclamation of the fact. This patriotism should be put into material and concrete form, and be given expression before all the world by the erection of monuments as can only be erected on the foundations laid by the men who have built the nation and made possible its growth to its present splendid proportions. We have too few of these shrines of patriotism; we should have more of them. They add to the nation's strength; they contribute to the nation's glory. They make far better citizenship, and the few dollars they cost are as nothing to the benefits they bestow.

Bill Nye's Cow Advertisement

Bill Nye, the humorist, once had a cow to sell, the story goes, and advertised her as follows: "Owing to my ill health, I will sell at my residence, in township 19, range 18, according to the government survey, one plush raspberry cow, aged eight years. She is of undoubted courage and gives milk frequently. To a man who does not fear death in any form she would be a great good. She is very much attached to her present home with a stay chain, but she will be sold to any one who will agree to treat her right. She is one-fourth Shorthorn and three-fourths hyena. I will also throw in a double-barrel shot gun, which goes with her. In May she usually goes away for a week or two and returns with a tall, red calf with wobbly legs. Her name is Rose. I would rather sell her to a non-resident."—Batten's Wedge.

Jan. 8, 1907.	Appropriation by city council	1,500 00
Jan. 10.	Cash by Library Board	32 27
Total receipts for Building Fund		\$17,803 27

EXPENDITURES.

Sept. 13.	Patton & Miller.....	\$ 333 34
Nov. 23.	Bulley & Andrews, on contract	1,700 00
Dec. 20.	Bulley & Andrews, on contract	2,700 00
Dec. 22.	G. W. Roberts, Insurance.....	60 00
Jan. 4.	1906. Patton & Miller, architects	290 69
Jan. 26.	Schaeffer Co., roofing.....	450 00
Feb. 12.	Abereromby, plumbing.....	950 00
Feb. 20.	Bulley & Andrews, on contract	2000 00
Mar. 1.	Patton & Miller, architects.....	51 00
May 4.	Bulley & Andrews, on contract	2000 00
May 17.	Patton & Miller, architects.....	87 65
May 18.	C. & N. W. Ry, freight bills..	9 68
May 21.	Bulley & Andrews on contract	1800 00
May 31.	Schaeffer Co., roofing.....	237 00
June 8.	Chicago Gas & Electric Co., light fixtures.....	300 00
June 8.	Globe Fixture & Furniture Co., tables and Desks.....	300 00
June 9.	Abereromby, heating plant....	600 00
July 3.	North Shore Gas Co., piping building.....	34 40
July 10.	Linden Glass Company, orna- mental glass.....	200 00
July 13.	Duffy, freight and drayage....	3 14
July 23.	Ford & Johnson Co., chairs.....	83 92
July 26.	Spierling, interior decoration..	100 00
Aug. 3.	J. Miller, repairing stacks.....	15 55
Aug. 6.	Marshall Field & Co., window shades.....	33 80
Sept. 14.	Pierson, repairs.....	3 00
Oct. 9.	Spierling, decoration.....	300 00
9.	Schaeffer Co., roofing.....	100 00
9.	Abereromby, plumbing and heating.....	252 00
Patton & Miller, architects.....	61 80	
Russell & Ervin Mfg. Co., (for Bul- ley & Andrews.).....	176 50	
Hawes & Dodd, copper mantle and tile.....	150 00	
Globe Fixture Co., tables and desks	64 82	
10. Bulley & Andrews on contract..	900 00	
Jan. 10. 1907. North Shore Gas Co., outside piping.....	11 71	
10. Brand Brothers, repairs on ceil- ing.....	1 00	
14. Bulley & Andrews, balance on contract.....	823 00	
14. McFell Electric Co., electric wiring.....	417 25	
14. Abereromby, balance on heat- ing.....	100 00	
14. Chicago Gas & Electric Fixture Co., balance.....	146 62	
14. North Shore Electric Co., bal.	21 40	
14. Patton & Miller, balance.....	20 76	
14. North Shore Gas Co., balance..	3 24	

Total expenditures in Library Building \$ 17,893 27

Perhaps I ought to add, by way of explanation, that Mr. Carnegie did not give his money to the city as a municipality, to be put into its treasury and paid out on its orders, nor did he give it to the public library board. He gave it to help erect a public library building for the people of the city of Highland Park. To protect himself from fraud, or any possible misuse of his gifts, in this city or the scores or hundreds of other places all over the world, he devised the plan of practically paying the bills of construction himself as the work proceeded, in the following manner. When a contractor had done enough work on his contract to entitle him to receive an installment of his pay, he went to our architects and they issued to him a certificate as to the amount he was then entitled to receive and he sent that certificate to me, as the President of the board and the one in

charge of the work. At the same time the architect issued an order on the Carnegie building fund for money enough to pay the contractor his installment, and sent that order also to me, and I sent it to Mr. Carnegie's fiscal agent down east, who forthwith sent me his check for the amount, payable to my personal order. I put it in the bank and got a bank draft, paid the contractor and took his receipt for the amount, and those receipts are on file, every one of them, in the new Library building. That's all there was of it, nothing more and nothing less. Thus Mr. Carnegie knows that his money went just where he intended it should go, was not and could not be expended for books, or fuel, or janitors or librarian's salary or other operating expenses, and so far as I know, not one cent of Mr. Carnegie's money, or any other portion of the building fund, has gone astray; at all events, the accounts balance to a cent, without any "cooking" or "doctoring."

One thing more should be said, in justice to the building committee and those in charge of the work of construction; not one cent has been paid out of the Carnegie or general maintenance, or any other library fund, for postage, stationery, car fare, lunches or other incidental expenses in connection with the erection of our new Public Library building. To Mr. Robertson, as a rising millionaire, belongs the credit of bearing the lion's share of these incidental expenses, save my postage bills, which I paid myself, as I did for the full two years of my Presidency.

LEWIS B. HIBBARD.

Highland Park, Ill., Feb. 22, 1907.

Pay Your Taxes Now!! DON'T WAIT.

THOMAS MORTON, Collector.

OFFICE:—NORTH SHORE FUEL and SUPPLY
CO., 100 N. FIRST STREET.

Personal Property Tax must be paid to the Col-
lector on or before March 1st, 1907.

8-3w

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