The Commoner.

BUY MONTICELLO

A senate committee has unanimously agreed upon a resolution for the appointment of a commission to ascertain the advisability of the purchase by the government of Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson. Mrs. Martin Littleton, the talented wife of Representative Littleton, of New York, appeared before the committee and urged the purchase of this estate. It is now owned by Jefferson M. Levy of New York, and it is estimated that the government could acquire title to this property for about \$200,000.

Mrs. Littleton is to be commended for her good efforts and congress ought to act upon her suggestion. There is no name in American history more important than the name of Jefferson. The purchase of Monticello and its maintenance by the government would aid materially in the cultivation of the principles for which Jefferson stood.

In a speech delivered in the house of representatives June 5, 1904, Mr. Bryan paid this

tribute to Jefferson:

"There are wrongs to be righted; there are evils to be eradicated; there is injustice to be removed; there is good to be secured for those who toil and wait. In this fight for equal laws we can not fail, for right is mighty and will in time triumph over all obstacles. Even if our own eyes do not behold success we know that our labor is not in vain, and we can lay down our weapons, happy in the promise given by Bryant to the soldier:

" Yea, though thou lie upon the dust; When they who helped thee flee in fear. Die full of hope and manly trust, Like those who fell in battle here.

" 'Another hand thy sword shall wield; Another hand the standard wave: Till from the trumpet's mouth is pealed The blast of triumph o'er thy grave.'

"Let us, then, with the courage of Andrew Jackson, apply to present conditions the principles taught by Thomas Jefferson-Thomas Jefferson, the greatest constructive statesman whom the world has ever known; the grandest warrior who ever battled for human liberty! P quarried from the mountain of eternal tru'a the four pillars, upon whose strength all popular government must rest. In the Declaration of American Independence he proclaimed the principles with which there is, without which there can not be, 'a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.' When he declared that 'all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are institued among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,' he declared all that lies between the Alpha and Omega of democracy.

"Alexander 'wept for other worlds to conquer,' after he had carried his victorious banner through the then known world; Napoleon 'rearranged the map of Europe with his sword," amid the lamentations of those by whose blood he was exalted; but when these and other military heroes are forgotten and their achievements disappear in the cycle's sweep of years, children will still lisp the name of Jefferson, and freemen will ascribe due praise to him who filled the kneeling subject's heart with hope and bade him stand erect—a sovereign among his peers."

"BACK TO WORK"

Washington dispatches say that William Lorimer, late senator, is "going back to work," but that he is not fully decided whether to re-enter politics and seek vindication.

The best way for Mr. Lorimer to vindicate the friendship shown him by many distinguished men would be the devotion of his efforts to good citizenship. He would do well to forget the past and abandon all effort to justify his election to the senate. Doubtless Mr. Lorimer has many fine personal qualities. Men who rejoiced to see the senate expel him will cherish the hope that his future life may be a happy one and full of genuine service. He can not, however, win this happiness by doing anything more in defense of the methods through which he secured his seat in the United States senate.

Suppose the Baltimore convention had known of the \$250,000 contributed by August Belmont (one of the men condemned by resolution) to Judge Parker's campaign fund, would the convention have selected him to sound the key-note of a progressive campaign? And Mr. Ryan is yet to hear from.

"The Folks at Home" in West Virginia

William R. Thompson was nominated for Governor of West Virginia at a convention held at Huntington. It will be remembered that former Governor William A. McCorkle of West Virginia fought the Belmont-Ryan resolution offered by Mr. Bryan at Baltimore. The Huntington correspondent for the Cincinnati Enquirer says that when Mr. McCorkle introduced a resolution providing that resolutions introduced into the state convention be referred to the resolutions committee without debate "he was hissed from the floor of the convention and driven to his seat." Referring to the convention proceedings the Enquirer's correspondent says:

The demonstration came when McCorkle introduced a resolution providing that any resolution introduced in the convention be referred to the committee on resolutions without debate. McCorkle was slated to be chairman of the

committee of resolutions.

The cat calls and hisses started in the Ohio county delegation when McCorkle attempted to speak on the resolution, and in an instant spread throughout the hall.

McCorkle attempted to gain recognition to withdraw the resolution after it had met with strenuous objection, but was forced to take his seat and send word to the chairman that he desired the resolution withdrawn.

The convention was called to order by State

Chairman W. G. Bennett.

He named John H. Holt, of Huntington, as the temporary chairman; A. E. Kenny, of Calhoun county, temporary secretary; M. A. Strickler, assistant secretary, and H. A. Garden, as sergeant-at-arms.

Judge Holt sounded the keynote in an address that bristled with denunciation of the favoring of special privilege under republican rule, and the promise of a change under democratic rule. In one of his characteristic climaxes he mentioned the name of Woodrow Wilson, but soon as the full came, a Ritchie county delegate threw the convention into an uproar with "hurrah for Bryan."

This the speaker took up by declaring the world had produced two great commoners. William Pitt and William Bryan. The Bryan demonstration continued for eight minutes.

Mr. Holt said: "Four years more have rolled away and once again the democracy of West Virginia, through its accredited representatives, is gathered in state convention. The times are auspicious. After nearly fifty years of continuous republican rule in the nation and onethird that period in the state, we are at last gathered today around the open grave of the republican party. We come ready and willing to perform the last sad rites and to see that she has decent burial. When we look over her long record and reflect upon what would be an appropriate epitaph wherewith to mark her last resting place, we can think of nothing more suitable than that, 'Here lies the champion and advocate of special privilege, who has left behind a mistreated, impoverished and indignant people.'

"Upon the subject of the tariff there must be no hesitation, there can be no compromise. We must stand flatfooted on the constitution. So long as we have representatives in congress voting for a protective tariff upon coal, and so long as we have democrats in congress from the state of Virginia voting for a protective tariff upon peanuts, we can not expect to succeed. There can be no proper reformation of customs duties.

"When we further review the history of the republican party we find that it has almost completed the centralization of our government. This evolutionary process began in the days of the federalists, and was subsequently checked through the democracy of Jefferson. Later the pendulum began to swing in that direction once again during the old whig regime, and was taken up by the republican party, and such has been the tendency from that time till now.

"When the history of this country shall finally come to be written one brilliant advocate of this modern doctrine of the election of senators by the people will take his place alongside of Jefferson and Jackson as distinctive and characteristic as theirs, and his democracy has been as pure-indeed, he gives you the key to the true theory of local self-government; and the day is not far distant when the American people will recognize him not only as a benefactor, but as a patriot as well. The English-speaking people have produced two great commonersone was William Pitt, and the other is William Bryan."

"THE FOLKS AT HOME" DID THE BUSINESS

Louis F. Post in The Public: It is no empty compliment, that which pretty much all the papers but Hearst's-the latter for obvious and disgusting reasons-are paying to William J. Bryan as the Warwick at Baltimore. Few public men of any country or time, having his opportunities for self-service, would have undertaken what he accomplished: no other man in our time and country could have accomplished it had he made the effort. The convention had been well put together for a definite and treacherous purpose. Bryan detected the fraud and promptly denounced it. His fight had every appearance of a hopeless one. The scheme had been put together so well that the schemers held a majority of the convention under their control at first. But back of Bryan were the "folks at home." As he pummeled away, lonesome in leadership but not in support, the treacherous plans of the plutocrats slowly disintegrated; and Bryan's fidelity and courage were at last rewarded by the convention's nomination of the one principal candidate to whom the interests, from their sad experience with him in New Jersey, were unalterably opposed.

A SQUARE GAME CONTEST

Editorial in Moberly (Mo.) Democrat: Attacked without cause Bryan was plunged into a fight not of his own making. The national committee exemplified the old adage, "Whom the Gods would destroy they first made mad." Impelled by over-confidence in their strength and animated by animosity to Bryan they imagined they would first be able to clout him in the face and eliminate him afterwards. They knew the nomination of Parker would be objectionable to the larger wing of the party represented by Bryan and to Bryan himself. And imagining they had him in a corner they expected to knock him out with the first blow.

Then followed the most remarkable exhibition of generalship and political manipulation the world has ever seen. He went down for the first round and Parker was elected temporary chairman. The interests back of Parker thought that Bryan would take the count. He was merely gaining an estimate of the forces he must fight. He took a correct invoice and gave a handsome exhibition of ring generalship. He was in a corner no longer. From that time he occupied the center of the ring. The second round was his. Permanent chairmanship, the third round was his. Abolishing the unit rule. The fourth was his-introducing the resolution relative to Ryan, Belmont and Morgan. From the first round he was master of the ring. He could take punishment without a whimper. He could give it and the crowd he fought wasn't as game as the man they fought.

It was a square game contest and not a blow below the belt. It establishes the champion as the gamest political fighter in the country, and proves that he is the ablest organizer and has more knowledge of the political prize ring than all his opponents combined. After the first round he never struck a blow that didn't count.

-Moberly Monitor.

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CIRCULATE THE COMMONER

An old-time reader of The Commoner writes: "Wherever The Commoner is regularly read the democratic vote increases. One of the most effective methods of increasing Governor Wilson's vote would be by the circulation of The Commoner (particularly among men who have heretofore voted the republican ticket) in every state of the union. I suggest that you make a special rate for campaign purposes and I am sure there are many hard working democrats who will take advantage of that rate to put The Commoner regularly into the hands of their republican neighbors."

The Commoner will be sent to any one from now until the close of the 1912 campaign for the sum of 35c, or three subscriptions will be entered until the close of the campaign for \$1.00.