

# WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

A Family Paper, devoted to State Intelligence, the News of the World, Political Information, Southern Rights, Agriculture, Literature, and Miscellany.

BY JOHN J. PALMER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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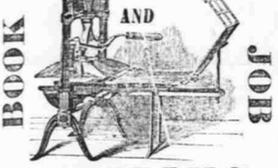
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TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1856.

NEW SERIES { VOLUME 5. NUMBER 2.

OFFICE OF THE Western Democrat

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ENCOURAGE THIS KNOCKING. THE undersigned begs leave to return his thanks to those who favored him with a call during the last year; and he would respectfully inform the public that he has removed to the Machine Shop formerly occupied by Messrs. George & Whisnant, adjoining Mr. J. Rollins's Steam

Turning, Cutting Screws, Repairing Boilers and Engines of all descriptions, Making and Repairing Mill Spindles, Wood Planers, Making Ploughs, Ironing Wagons; and in Horse-Shoeing, &c., we will yield to no one for neatness, wear, and dispatch.

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REPAIRING done at the shortest notice and with neatness and dispatch.

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TO THE PUBLIC. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED and opened the largest and most varied stock of

Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, Window Glass, Putty, Dye-Stuffs, Perfumery, Toilet Articles, &c. &c. NEVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

All of which will be sold at extremely short profits, for CASH.

I defy competition—and if you want articles in my line, call, you shall be satisfied, both with regard to price and quality.

H. M. F. RICHARD, M. D. Wholesale & Retail Druggist, GRANITE ROW, No. 3. Charlotte, May 6, 1856.—w

BOOKS For Sale AT THE CHARLOTTE BOOK STORE.

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Mackey's Ahimn Rezon of South Carolina. The New Masonic Trustee Board. THE ODD FELLOWS' MANUAL, by the Rev. A. B. Grass. LOWRIE & ENNIS, Book-Sellers. Charlotte, March 4, 1856

MR. BUCHANAN'S PUBLIC SERVICES.

We give a brief outline of the public services of the next President of the United States.

JAMES BUCHANAN was born in 1791, in the county of Franklin, State of Pennsylvania.

Franklin was at that time one of the frontier counties of that State. His father was an honest and industrious farmer, whose vigorous arm cleared the fields from which he derived a support for his family.

A FARMER'S BOY. The early days of the son were spent on his father's farm, in what was then about the wildest portion of the Keystone State.

The future statesman, aided his father in the labors of his farm, and under the roof of the farm house, received from a pious mother his first lessons of instruction.

For years he struggled against those terrible and disheartening obstacles which beset the pathway of the ambitious scholar, who presses forward, unaided by family, fortune, or influential friends, and whose success rests upon his own merits.

He adopted the law as his profession, and selected Lancaster county for his place of residence. Accurate in his profession, eloquent as an advocate, energetic, industrious, faithful and scrupulous, he at once attained a high position at the bar, and was regarded as one of the ablest lawyers of his State.

A SOLDIER IN THE WAR OF 1812. His simple and unpretending manners, endeared him early in life to the masses of the people. His first public service was as a soldier.

Although the war of 1812 found him poor, and dependent entirely upon his practice for support, he threw his books aside and took up arms for his country's cause.

He sought no place of honor, but enlisted as a common soldier when the British threatened the destruction of Baltimore.

SUPPORTS MONROE AND JACKSON. His career as a politician commenced in 1815, when he was elected to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, by the people of Lancaster.

In that body he exhibited the ability as a debater which has since so eminently distinguished him in the broader field of national politics.

He was always forcible, clear and eloquent, and highly cautious and conservative. He was a warm and active supporter of the republican administration of James Monroe, and a bitter and uncompromising opponent of the federal administration of John Quincy Adams.

ENTERED CONGRESS. As early as 1815, he took a decided stand against the United States Bank—a hostility which in after years made him the ever faithful friend of ANDREW JACKSON.

He entered the House of Representatives in 1820, and was for ten years a member of that body, and was always recognized as the equal of Hayne, McDuffie, Silas Wright, Woodbury, Giles, Felix Grundy, and Polk.

In 1831 he was sent as Minister to Russia by General Jackson. He returned home in 1834, and was immediately sent to the United States Senate, where he remained until 1842.

JAMES BUCHANAN was one of the earliest advocates of the election of the hero of N. Orleans.

His advocacy, indeed, assumed the intensest form of personal devotion and partisan zeal. His hostility to the United States Bank, and his warm advocacy of JACKSON, made Mr. BUCHANAN an object of especial hatred to the hirelings of Biddle and to the Whig party.

The monster Bank, which bought up Senators and whole States, corrupted the press, and threatened to crush the Democratic party, was located at Philadelphia. It was deemed omnipotent, and when Jackson first assailed the monster it laughed derisively at his blows.

The corrupt and the cowardly, predicting the speedy destruction of the untried soldier statesman, deserted to the enemy or remained quiet spectators of the conflict.

Mr. Buchanan stood firm in the support of the old hero through all that fierce and trying contest, and the result of that memorable conflict is known to every body.

MINISTER TO RUSSIA. Mr. BUCHANAN was for three years our Minister to Russia. He enjoyed, at St. Petersburg, the personal friendship and esteem of the Emperor, and did much to conciliate the Russian Government and to render Americans popular in that country.

This hurried sketch will not permit us to detail the many important services which he rendered to his country whilst in Russia. His celebrated commercial treaty between the United States and Russia, has proved itself and still promises, in the advantages which it has afforded to our commerce, to be a lasting monument of his early ability as a diplomatist.

There is perhaps no statesman in this country so intimately acquainted with our system of foreign policy as Mr. Buchanan. His caution, well-balanced mind, urbanity of manners and placid temper eminently qualified him to conduct delicate diplomatic relations.

It is fortunate for us that, at this time, when our foreign relations are in an entangled condition, the country may soon be able to command at the helm of State, the services of a statesman so accomplished, judicious and experienced. He will bring with him to the discharge of the duties of that high Executive office to which he will soon be elevated, nearly twenty-five years acquaintance with our foreign rela-

tions, as Senator, Secretary of State and Foreign Minister.

ELECTED TO THE U. S. SENATE. Immediately upon his return from Russia, Mr. BUCHANAN was elected by the Legislature of Pennsylvania to the Senate of the United States.

He remained for more than ten years a member of that body, entering it in 1834 and resigning his seat in 1848 to accept the Secretaryship of State during Mr. Polk's administration.

Our readers will remember that from 1834 to 1848, the Senate of the United States contained a larger number of great men than any legislative body since the days of Pitt, Fox, Sheridan and Burke.

Clay, Calhoun, McDuffie, Buchanan, Hayne, Rives, Woodbury, Wright, Preston, Grundy, Webster, and Linn, were among the illustrious statesmen who were among the great minds in the Senate at the dates referred to, and JAMES BUCHANAN ranked with the ablest men of our party, and was regarded as one of its most accomplished champions.

He signaled himself by his bitter hostility to all the measures of the Abolitionists, and endeavored to crush that fanatical faction by harsh and severe measures, both in and out of the Senate chamber.

His boldness and patriotism rendered him, of course, a prominent object for their abuse and denunciation, and he enjoyed his full share of that billingsgate which is now so liberally poured on Judge DOUGLAS.

HIS COURSE IN THE SENATE. In the Senate Mr. Buchanan opposed the United States Bank, the profuse expenditure of the public revenue, the abolition of the veto power, the Exchequer system, the distribution of the public revenue to the States, and a substitution of paper money for the constitutional currency of gold and silver.

He was for many years chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, and bitterly opposed the surrender of McLeod upon the insulting demand of the British government.

He defended our title to the Northeast boundary line, and opposed the treaty, which gave a large portion of our territory to a foreign government.

He invariably acted with his party. During the extra session of 1841, when the Whigs, flushed by success and confident of the acquiescence of JOHN TYLER, in all of their batch of unconstitutional measures, sought to press "bank, bankrupt law, and distribution," through Congress during the memorable hundred days, again, as in the time of Andrew Jackson, Mr. Buchanan distinguished himself by able and eloquent speeches on the side of Democratic measures.

HIS DEFENCE OF THE SOUTH. The most conclusive speech delivered in the Senate in 1842, against the restriction or abolition of the veto power, was that of James Buchanan. With prophetic wisdom, he declared that the time might come when the Southern States would have nothing to protect their domestic institutions but the veto power and an honest, constitution loving President.

Upon this subject his views are in striking contrast with those of Millard Fillmore, who believes that the action of Congress should never be interfered with by the exercise of the veto power by the Executive.

Consistent and prominent as Mr. Buchanan has always been, in his advocacy of the great principles of Democracy, his defence of the South and her institutions has been equally remarkable.

As far back as the great debate on the admission of Arkansas and Michigan, he was our unwavering and devoted friend.

In 1836, on the subject of circulating Abolition documents through the public mails, he agreed with Mr. Calhoun in urging the passage of a law to prohibit their circulation at the South.

When Congress was petitioned to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, he opposed the reception of such petitions in an eloquent speech.

SUPPORTS THE ARKANSAS BILL. As a high mark of the esteem and admiration of the South, he was selected in 1836, to present the bill admitting Arkansas as a slave State, and he delivered a speech of signal ability, taking sides with the South.

It was upon the occasion in question, when the States Rights party was yet in its infancy, before even John C. Calhoun had given it shape and consistency, that Mr. Buchanan, in claiming for the State an entire control of the subject of slavery, declared:—"The older I grow, the more I am inclined to be what is called a State Rights man."

Mr. Buchanan was one of the first statesmen in this country to maintain precisely the argument which is now used by the advocates of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

As early as 1836, in advocating the admission of Arkansas "he took the broad ground, that the people of the territory having formed a Republican Constitution after the model of the United States, could be, and should be admitted into the Union irrespective of slavery; and that Congress should not interfere to prevent the admission of a slave State."

IN FAVOR OF ADMITTING TEXAS. In 1844, the annexation of Texas was warmly advocated by the Democracy of the Southern States.

The Whigs, with Henry Clay as their leader, opposed the annexation of Texas. The Democracy of the North wavered, for a time, as Martin Van Buren, then the nominal leader of the party in free States, opposed the annexation of Texas in a long letter to Mr. Hammett, of

Mississippi. Van Buren's influence was at that time very great, and for a time, the friends of annexation trembled for the fate of that young Republic, as both France and England were eager to possess themselves of the beautiful and fertile State.

James Buchanan at this critical juncture, warmly advocated the annexation of Texas in a speech of remarkable ability and eloquence. The effect of the speech was almost magical.

The Northern Democracy cast off the ingrate of New York, and vied with the Democracy of the Southern States in their cordial support of annexation. It is impossible to exaggerate the influence of Pennsylvania's attitude at that time upon the fortunes of the Democratic party.

OPPOSED TO THE WILMOT PROVISIO. But the record of his devotion to the South is not yet complete. He never skulked responsibility—and never failed by his speeches, letters and votes to illustrate the sincerity of his attachment.

It was James Buchanan who denounced the famous Wilmot Proviso, in 1847, and rallied Pennsylvania against it, and made the faithful Democracy of that State hurl David Wilmot from public life and consign him to a political grave, so deep that the hand of resurrection has never reached him since.

SECRETARY OF STATE. The triumph of the Democracy in 1844 was the last victory which was to gladden the heart and rekindle the eye of the hero of the Hermitage.

His long and useful life was drawing to its close, when the national Democracy elected Mr. Polk, the friend and political pupil of the hero of New Orleans, to the Presidency.

Before forming that Cabinet which was destined to share the glory of his administration, Mr. Polk repaired to the hermitage to seek the counsel and profit by the experience of that great soldier, statesman and patriot, who, during the eight years of an eventful administration, enjoyed rare opportunities to ascertain the character and capacity of all our public men.

The condition of our foreign relations were of a most dangerous and alarming character. The Oregon question threatened to involve us in a war with Great Britain, and war with Mexico was regarded as inevitable by every one.

The post of Secretary of State was therefore of great importance. The welfare of the country depended very much upon the character of the member of Mr. Polk's cabinet who should discharge the duties of that important post.

Andrew Jackson urged the appointment of James Buchanan for Secretary of State and chief of the Cabinet; and Mr. Polk, recognizing his pre-eminent qualifications for the office, offered to Mr. Buchanan the appointment. It was accepted, and for four years he discharged his duties of the office with an ability unsurpassed by that which had been manifested by any of his distinguished predecessors.

He shaped the measures of that administration which, in its complete success and in its extraordinary influence upon the destinies of the Union, now ranks by universal consent with those of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Jackson.

Mr. Buchanan's services to the country whilst Secretary of State are well known. He defended in a masterly argument the American title to Oregon, and conducted the diplomatic correspondence of the government with great ability.

But it is useless to recapitulate his many services to his country as chief officer of the Cabinet and conductor of its foreign policy during the eventful administration in question.

ALWAYS IN OPPOSITION TO ABOLITION SCHEMES. During the whole of Taylor's and Fillmore's Administrations Mr. Buchanan was the leader and defender of the State Rights Democracy of Pennsylvania.

He everywhere, by his letters and speeches, urged upon the people of Pennsylvania the importance of enforcing the provisions of the fugitive slave law, and fearlessly denounced the laws which were enacted in that State by the freesoilers and abolitionists, for the purpose of depriving the South of the use of the jails for the safe keeping of fugitive slaves.

Mr. Buchanan has uniformly, consistently, and always opposed the abolitionists and free-soilers in their encroachments upon the constitutional rights of the Southern States. He would not have retained the confidence of Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, and all Southerners, even the ultra portion of the Democratic party of South Carolina, if he had shown the shadow of a shade of free-soilism.

If at any time he, like many of the best Southerners, expressed opposition to slavery in the abstract, or as an original question, it was a matter wholly apart from his political acts. He has always been found acting and voting with the Democratic party in favor of every measure which could be regarded as a Southern one.

MINISTER TO ENGLAND. Of his recent services as our Minister to England it is unnecessary to speak. His official correspondence with Lord Clarendon upon the Central American and Eulianist questions, shows how carefully and watchfully he guarded our rational honor and rights.

OPPOSED TO KNOW-NOTHINGISM. James Buchanan was the first of our statesmen to denounce the atrocious doctrines of the late Know-Nothing party.—With that fearless patriotism which has in-

variably characterized his history as a politician, he denounced the heresies of the American party when that party was local in its influence and yet in its infancy.

Know-Nothingism without its secret signs, oaths, pledges, pass-words, grips and mummeries, existed in Pennsylvania in 1844. It then bore the name of Native American party.

It signaled its decency and respect for the Bible and the Constitution by burning churches and butchering foreigners. Then, as more recently, it delighted in bloodshed and mobs. In the name of the Constitution and the Holy Bible, it practised the accomplishments of murder and arson.

It also warred to the knife upon the Democratic party. James Buchanan took the lead in denouncing the Native American party as early as 1844.

We gather the foregoing facts from a long review of his life and public services drawn up by the able editors of the Richmond (Va.) Examiner. We regret that we have not space for the whole sketch.

We have omitted many things showing additional claims of Mr. B. to the support of the people, and particularly of a Southern people, for the office which his countrymen have called him to fill.

The Examiner, in closing its lengthy sketch, says: "Not addicted to fulsome and unmerited eulogy, we have not colored too highly this sketch of the public life of James Buchanan.

Had he been a time-serving demagogue through life, rising by intrigue, trickery and duplicity, he would not have received our support. But those admirable qualities as a statesman and a gentleman which secured him our early support, and has won for him the love of his native State, will elevate him to the Presidency by the largest electoral vote given to any candidate for the Presidency since the days of James Monroe.

Conservative, Union-loving men of all parties, friends of the Constitution, and patriots in every State of the Union, will hail his nomination with delight. And even those who have already despaired of the republic, who are desponding and believe that we are to be shipwrecked by the storms and tempests of fanaticism, will cling to the Democratic platform and to James Buchanan, as the shipwrecked mariner grasps the last plank of his foundered vessel, when night and the tempest have closed around him."

From Harper's Magazine.

JAMES BUCHANAN IN YOUTH. HOW HE CAME TO BE A BACHELOR.

Some years ago a member of the United States Senate, distinguished not only for his talents, but for his fine personal appearance, was seated in a richly furnished parlor in the city of Washington, engaged in a lively conversation with one of the most amiable and accomplished married ladies that ever honored our national capital with their presence.

The subject was the common and most agreeable one of marriage; and the lady, with a bountiful enthusiasm natural to her character, was pressing upon the notice of her distinguished bachelor friend the claims of a young female friend, whose position in society, amiable disposition, and liberal education, eminently rendered her fit to be the wife of a distinguished statesman, who had seemingly already spent too many years without a proper companion to divide his honors and bear with him the ills of life.

The gentleman, who had for a long time entered with hearty good-will into the half serious and half playful conversation, suddenly became excited, and remarked that he could on such a subject bear all that was said in jest, but when serious arguments were brought to urge him to change his condition, then his reply must be that such a thing could never be—that to love he could not, for his affections were in the grave.

The lady was struck with the Senator's manner, and surprised that throughout her long acquaintance with him she had never suspected that he had found time, amidst the struggles of a laborious profession and a high political position, to "fall in love." With the blandishments only known to the sex, and with a curiosity prompted by the kindest of hearts, she asked for an explanation of this seeming mystery, and the gentleman, for the moment overcome by the eloquence of his interlocutor, explained as follows:

It was my good fortune, soon after I entered upon the active duties of my profession, to engage the affections of a lovely girl, alike graced with beauty of person and high social position. Her mother, her only living parent, was ambitious; and, in the thoughtless desire to make an alliance of fashion, opposed the union of her child with one who had only his talents and the future to give in return for so much beauty and wealth.

The young lady, however, was more disinterested; mutual vows of attachment were exchanged, a correspondence and frequent personal interviews succeeded, and the future seemed to promise a most happy consummation of all our wishes.

At that time I had just commenced under favorable circumstances, my profession in my native town; and, making some character, was finally engaged as counsel in a suit of importance before one of the courts holden in the city of Philadelphia.

The opportunity was favorable to make an impression on me if I possessed the ability to do so; and I gladly accepted the position, and bent my whole energies to accomplish my ambition. Unwilling to write frequently to one who divided my heart with my business duties, and to receive frequent epistles in return, I set out for Philadelphia, expecting to be absent at most not more than two weeks.—The law's delay, however, detained me a month beyond my most sanguine expectations, and established myself in a position before the highest court of my native State.

My triumphs were dashed that in all the time thus engaged I had not received a line from Lancaster, instead of which the atmosphere was filled with rumors that the person upon whom I had set my affections had been seduced into the ambitious designs of her thoughtless parent, and that I had been discarded—a thing I could not believe, and yet the dreadful silence seemed to endorse it.

At last, released from my engagement, I took the usual, and, in those days, the only conveyance to Lancaster—the stage. The idleness consequent upon travelling gave time for consuming thoughts, and my suspense became painful to the last degree, and, unable to bear the slow space of my conveyance, I determined to anticipate the usual time of my journey, by making the last miles on horseback.

In carrying out this determination, I mounted a fleet steed; but just as I reached the suburbs of my native place, the animal, from some unaccountable cause, sprang from the road, threw me with force, breaking my arm and otherwise injuring my person. Picked up by my friends, I was conveyed helpless and full of physical and mental agony, to my home. Scarcely had the surgeons performed the necessary duties, than one, whom I esteemed a friend, announced to me the gossip of the village, and, among other things, detailed the particulars of the courtship and engagement of the young lady in whom I was so interested with a well known person of a neighboring city—a person whose claims to regard no one could dispute. These things, stated with such apparent good faith, connected with that fearful silence of six long weeks, had no other effect than to increase my anxiety to unravel the mystery; and on the following morning, concealed my wounded limb under a cloak, probably pale and haggard, I presented myself at the mansion of my mistress. I was received in the presence of the mother. She confirmed my suspicions.

The young lady stood by, the picture of despair, yet silent as the grave. Desperate at what seemed this bad faith, I returned to my house, wrote a hasty letter demanding my correspondence, and returning at the same time every once cherished token of affection. I received all I sent for, save, perhaps some forgotten flower.

That night the young lady, accompanied by a female servant, left for Philadelphia. Arriving at her uncle's house, she complained of being fatigued with her journey, and retired to her room. Complaining of some serious pain, only soothed by narcotics, she sent her faithful but unsuspecting servant and friend to a neighboring drug store for laudanum, received it, expressed the wish to be alone, and seemingly retired to sleep. The following morning, not making her appearance, the family became alarmed, broke open the door, and found the young lady dead—in her hand the little keepsake retained from my correspondence.

The uncle, as if comprehending the particulars which led to this dreadful tragedy, had the body excoffined, and with it returned to Lancaster. Placing all that remained of this once lovely being in the parlor, he brought the mother forward, and displayed, what he was pleased to term, the result of her work.

I was sent for, and arrived to witness the eloquent agony of that mother's heart.—Over the cold remains of her daughter, she revealed the particulars that led to the awful result. My letters and her's, by entering industry, the command of large resources, and paid agents, had been all intercepted. The reason of my prolonged absence in Philadelphia had been explained as the result of the fascinating charms of city belles; even an engagement had been pronounced. All this while the victim had been full of hope. She had heard of my arrival in Lancaster, but not of my accident; for long weary hours she sat in the parlor waiting my presence, but doomed to disappointment. Here was seeming indifference, a confirmation of all she had heard. On the other side, I was made the dupe of the mother's arts, and the fiend who had poisoned my ear was merely the agent to carry forward the great wrong. The last interview I have described, which resulted in the return of correspondence, was enshrouded in the consequences of all these plans. The result was death to one party, and the burial of the heart of the other, in the same grave that closed over one who could not survive the wreck of her affections.

Many years have passed away since the incidents detailed in the above sketch have transpired; many years since they were revived by the accidental conversation in a family circle of Washington society; in the country strangely becomes interested in the event, from the fact that the White House may possibly have a bachelor for its occupant; but one, not so because of indifference to woman, but really from the highest appreciation of one of the loveliest of the sex.

State Library