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With the Compliments of

FRANKLIN P. RICE.

ETCHES

OF

THE PRESIDENTS

OF THE

UNITED STATES

From Washington to Arthur.

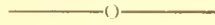


WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS:

PRIVATE PRESS OF FRANKLIN P. RICE.

1882.

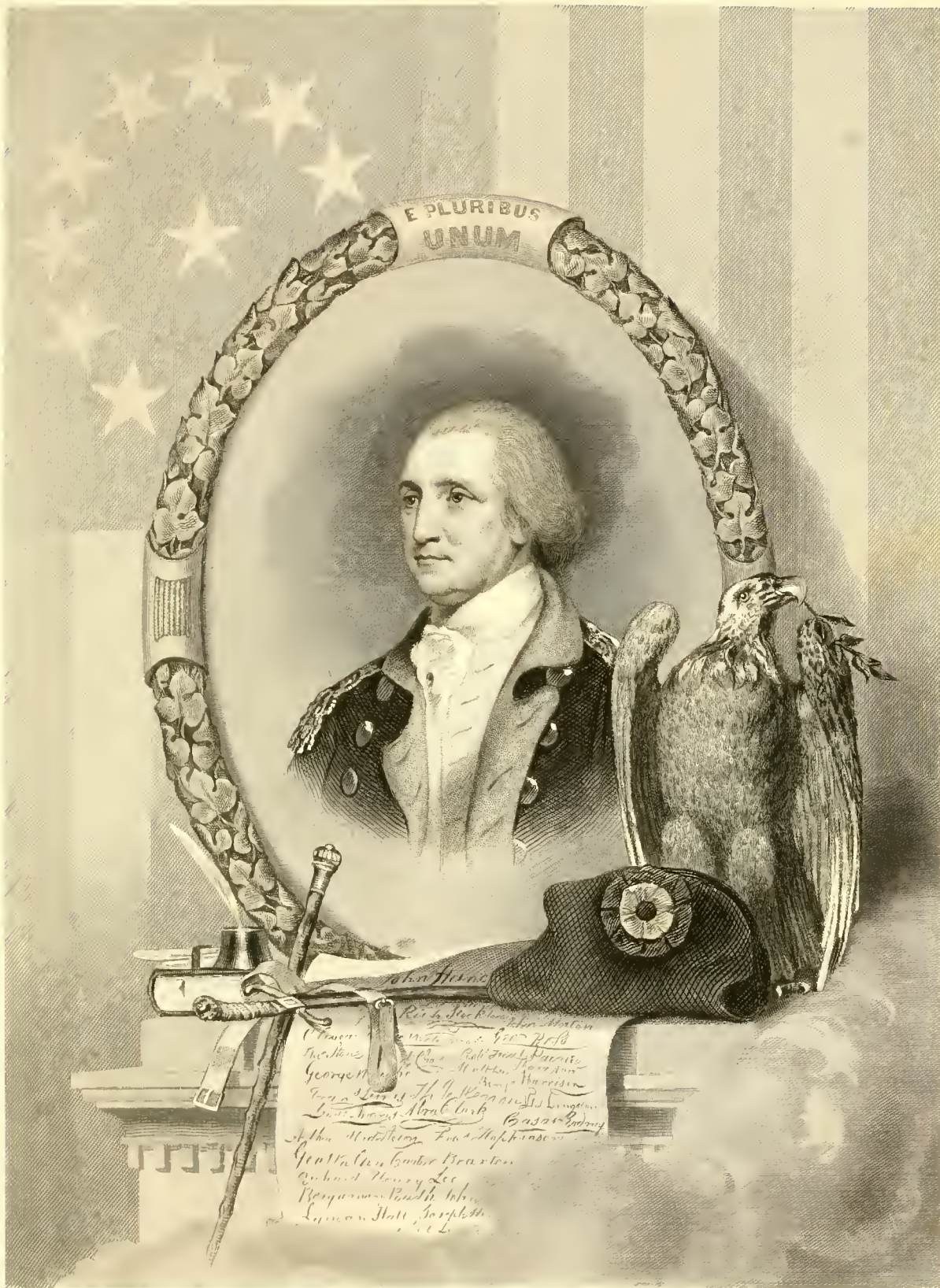
PREFACE.



OF the following Sketches, two copies have been printed upon large paper to accompany sets of uniform portraits of the Presidents in the possession of my friend, Mr. Samuel H. Putnam, and myself. Twenty-five copies with smaller margins were also struck off. The notices were not written, but set up in type without preparation, Drake's Biographical Dictionary being used for dates and main facts. Had more pains been taken, some of the defects would not have appeared; as it is they should not be paraded for criticism. The estimates of the acts and characters of the subjects are entirely my own.

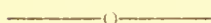
F. P. R.

September, 1882.



George Washington

GEORGE WASHINGTON.



GEORGE WASHINGTON, the First President of the United States, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, February 22nd, 1732. He became a land surveyor; and in 1751 entered military life as adjutant general, and attained the rank of colonel. As aide to Braddock, he was at the defeat of that ill-fated officer. He was a member of the House of Burgesses of Virginia for several years from 1760, and of the first and second Continental Congresses in 1774 and 1775. He was chosen Commander-in-chief of the army in the War of the Revolution, which he conducted to a successful issue. He was President of the Convention that formed the Constitution; and in 1789 became the First President of the United States, which office he held eight years. He died at Mount Vernon, December 14th, 1799.

With due allowance for that propensity in human nature which exalts most public characters to a position above their real merit, Washington is justly entitled to a place among the great personages in history. His qualities were not of the brilliant kind. Prudence, courage, firmness, and a spotless integrity were the strong points in his character. He was endowed with a physical organization nearly perfect, to which he owed much of his success. As President, while placed in situations of great difficulty, he maintained his position with honor and credit to himself. In public life he was above party, and retired to private life with his reputation for wisdom and goodness undimmed,—a destiny vouchsafed to none of his successors.

Dear Sir,

Mount Vernon May 16th 1785

In for a penny, or for a pound is an old adage. - I am so happy ad to the touches of the Painters pencil that I am now altogether at their beck, and sit like patience on a Monument whilst they are delineating the lines of my face. -

It is a proof among many others of what habit & custom can effect. - at first I was as impatient at the request, and as restive under the operation, as a Colt is of the saddle - The next time, I submitted very reluctantly, but with less glaucing. - Now, no dray more as more readily to the Chair than I do to the Painters Chair. - It may easily be conceived therefore that I yielded a ready obedience to your request, and to the views of M^r Pine.

Letters from England, recommendatory of this Gentleman, came to my hand previous to his arrival in America - not only as an Artist of acknowledged eminence, but as one who had discovered a friendly disposition towards this Country - for which, it seems he had been marked

It gave me pleasure to hear from you - I shall always feel an interest in your happiness - and with M^{rs} Washingtons compliments, & best wishes joined to my own for M^{rs} Hopkinson & yourself.

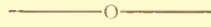
I am
Y^r most obed^t & affect^d
servant

Tras^r Hopkinson Esq^r G^o Washington



John Adams

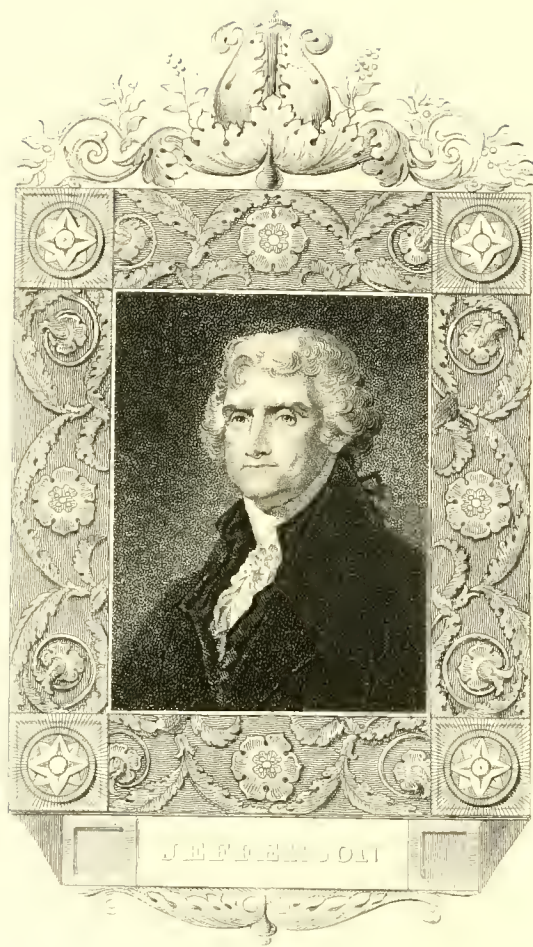
JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the Second President of the United States, was born at Braintree, Massachusetts, October 19th, 1735, o. s. He graduated at Harvard College in 1755; taught school and studied law at Worcester; began practice in his native town; and in 1768, having become influential in the patriotic party, he removed to Boston. Elected a member of the Revolutionary Congress in 1774, he was continued in that station until his appointment as Commissioner to France three years later. In that body he was the foremost advocate of independence, and as one of a committee of five, prepared the draft of that instrument which gave freedom to these United States. He was the First Minister to Great Britain; and on the formation of the Federal Government, became Vice-President. He succeeded Washington as President in 1797, his term closing in 1801. He died on the 4th of July, 1826.

As a Statesman, John Adams compares favorably with any of his cotemporaries. He was profound in his views, and in general, accurate in judgment. Vanity and irritability of temper were his faults. Of independent mind and enlarged understanding, his patriotism was for the *whole* country. He had the misfortune to stand as the representative of a party with which he had no real sympathy,—a party whose principal tenet was mutual admiration, and whose chief occupation was the composition of eulogies upon its members,—a practice religiously kept up by their descendants. His political defeat was brought about principally by the machinations of Alexander Hamilton, a troublesome character then at large in the state of New York, whose personal ambition ignored all considerations of party, friendship, and his own private character, domestic peace and happiness.

The time and circumstances of Adams's administration would have been unfavorable to the reputation of any incumbent. The calm judgment of to-day vindicates the wisdom of most of his measures, especially those in which he was opposed to his associates.



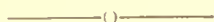
THOMAS JEFFERSON.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, the Third, and most abused of all Presidents, was born at Shadwell, Virginia, April 2nd, 1743. He graduated at William and Mary College; studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1767. Elected in 1769 to the Virginia Assembly, he firmly opposed the encroachments of Great Britain, and was the author of several important papers put forth by the Colony in defence of its rights. In 1775 he became a member of the Continental Congress, and the next year as chairman of the committee to prepare a Declaration of Independence, he drafted that remarkable document. He returned to the Virginia Assembly where he introduced many reforms; and for two years was Governor of the State. He became successively Minister to France, Secretary of State, Vice-President; and in 1801 President of the United States. He was re-elected in 1804. His death occurred on the 4th of July, 1826.

In those broad qualities which distinguish the scholar, statesman and philosopher, Jefferson was far above most of those with whom he had to deal. In religion he was a freethinker. He was foremost in all matters pertaining to education, art and science, and introduced many improvements and modifications of the old systems. He took great interest in the developement of the internal resources of the country, and accomplished considerable in that direction. In some of his political theories he went to extremes; but in practice these were modified.

In his administration of public affairs he encountered the bitterest opposition from a class unable to comprehend either his genius or character. To this class, who believed in distinctions other than social, the idea was intolerable that the farmer, the blacksmith, and the shoemaker should stand upon equal political footing with the minister, the lawyer or the gentleman of family, though the one might be a man of sense and the other but an educated imbecile. These men resided principally in New England, where by their wealth and influence they controlled the pulpit, the forum and the press; and through these channels they poured a flood of slander and abuse. But his fame has outlived detraction; and there are few to-day who will deny Thomas Jefferson the character of a great and good man.

JAMES MONROE.



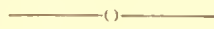
JAMES MONROE, the Fifth President, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, April 28th, 1758. Was educated at William and Mary College. He entered the Revolutionary army, participated in several battles, was wounded at Trenton, and attained the rank of captain. After the war he was elected successively to the Virginia Assembly, the General Congress, and in 1790, the United States Senate. He was abroad upon diplomatic missions from 1794 to 1808, excepting three years when he was Governor of Virginia. He was a party to the purchase of Louisiana in 1802. After serving again as Governor, Monroe was, in 1811, appointed Secretary of State by President Madison, which office he held for six years. He also acted for a time as Secretary of War, discharging the duties with energy and ability. In 1817, Mr. Monroe became President of the United States, and in 1820 was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote. He died in New York City, July 4th, 1831.

The "Era of Good Feeling" dawned upon Monroe's administration. Party spirit was for the time, totally extinguished. During his term of office the prosperity of the nation rapidly advanced. In 1819, the territory of Florida was acquired from Spain. The *Monroe Doctrine*—that European interference in the affairs of American States would not be tolerated—was asserted to the world. Much attention was given to internal matters. Surrounded by able advisers his conduct of public affairs was creditable to himself and honorable to the country. He left the reputation of a "discreet and successful statesman, more distinguished for administrative talents than for oratorical powers."



J. Q. Adams

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



JOHAN QUINCY ADAMS, the Sixth President, was born at Braintree, Mass., July 11th, 1767. In 1778, he accompanied his father to France, and in 1780 entered the University at Leyden. He was, soon after, appointed private secretary to Francis Dana, Minister to Russia, and passed a year in St. Petersburg, after which he resumed his studies at the Hague. He returned to the United States and completed his education at Harvard, graduating in 1788. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1791. Three years later, President Washington, appointed him Minister to Holland; and he was afterwards transferred to Prussia. He was elected United States Senator from Massachusetts in 1803. Convinced that the leaders of the Federalists, upon the principle that they would rule or ruin, were determined to dissolve the Union and break up the general government, he gave his support to the measures of President Jefferson, was censured by the Legislature, and resigned his seat in the Senate. He was Minister to Russia from 1809 to 1813, and was one of the Commissioners to negotiate the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1814. He was Minister to England for two years preceding his appointment as Secretary of State by President Monroe. In 1825 Mr. Adams became President, holding the office four years. In 1830 he was elected to Congress, and continued a member of that body the remainder of his life. He died at his post, February 23d, 1848.

Mr. Adams was a thorough scholar, a profound statesman, and an adroit diplomat. Manly, independent, and patriotic, he never in the course of his long public service, swerved from what he believed to be the path of duty. His sturdy battle in defence of the right of petition, and his inflexible resistance to the encroachments of the slave power, entitle him to the veneration of every lover of human freedom. His versatility was wonderful, and his voice was heard upon nearly every important question before the House. His power as a debater gained for him the name of "the Old Man Eloquent." In the combination of those qualities which form true greatness, his will ever remain a sublime character in American history.



ANDREW JACKSON.

ANDREW JACKSON, the Seventh President, was born at Waxhaw, South Carolina, March 15th, 1767. His opportunities for education were few. At the age of fourteen he entered the Revolutionary army and served until the war closed. In 1788 he removed to Nashville, Tennessee, and began the practice of the law. He was United States Senator in 1797, and Judge of the Supreme Court of Tennessee from 1798 to 1801. As Major General of the state militia he took part in the War of 1812, and was given the same rank in the army of the United States. He gained a signal victory over the British at New Orleans in January, 1815. It is upon this event that his fame chiefly rests. He was engaged in the Seminole War in 1817. In 1820 he was Governor of Florida, and again a Senator in 1823. He was elected President of the United States in 1828, and held the office eight years. He died at the Hermitage, near Nashville, Tennessee, June 8th, 1845.

General Jackson possessed but few qualifications for the high office to which he was elevated. He had no learning and but meagre information. Of statesmanship he had no conception. His disposition was arbitrary and his temper ungovernable. But he possessed executive ability, and in an emergency never hesitated to "take the responsibility." His integrity and patriotism are unquestioned. His administration was stormy, inconsistent and undignified in the extreme. He was surrounded by unscrupulous men, who artfully humored his notions and used him as a tool to further their own advancement. His term of office was principally passed in petty bickering, alike discreditable to himself and the nation. In him the transition from the sublime to the ridiculous was easy: he exerted his determination with equal power in crushing the bank combination, suppressing nullification, and in forcing the society of a disreputable woman upon the wives of his cabinet ministers. His personal popularity, notwithstanding, was great, and sufficed to establish for him a lasting name.

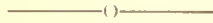


(THE UNION)
MUST AND SHALL BE PRESERVED.



W. W. Brown

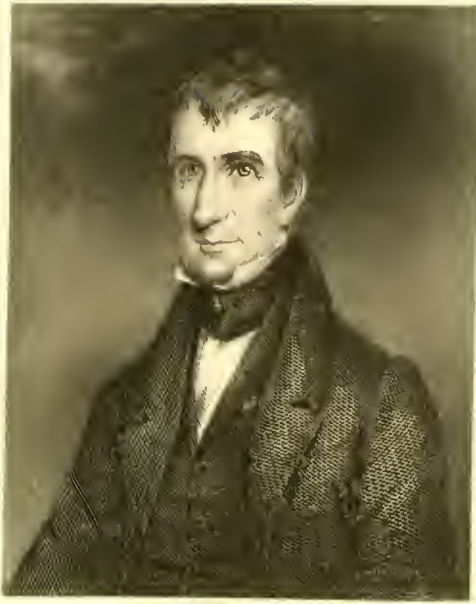
MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MA RTIN VAN BUREN, the Eighth President, was born at Kinderhook, New York, December 5th, 1782. He was educated at the academy of his native town, and studied law. He served in the State Senate in 1812 and 1816, and was Attorney General of New York in 1815. He was a prominent advocate of the War of 1812. Mr. Van Buren was a United States Senator from 1820 to 1828, and was then chosen Governor. General Jackson appointed him Secretary of State in 1829; and two years later nominated him Minister to England. To spite the President, the Senate refused to confirm the last appointment. In 1833 he was elected Vice President, and in 1837 succeeded Jackson as President. His re-election was defeated in 1841. He had a majority of the votes in the National Democratic Convention of 1844, but was rejected because he opposed the admission of Texas. The Free Soil Party nominated him as their candidate in 1848. He died July 24th, 1862.

Mr. Van Buren was an eminently successful politician. As a manager he has had few equals. His ambition for the Presidency was manifest in early life, and he pursued an undeviating and almost unobstructed course to that end. In his methods he was non-committal rather than tricky. As a public man he ranks well, and his administration was respectable. His private life was above reproach. He remained faithful to the Democratic Party through life, and voted for Pierce and Buchanan, but at the breaking out of the Rebellion gave his support to the Government. While in active life he commanded more attention, perhaps, than any other man of his time, General Jackson excepted; but to-day his name is faded almost out of remembrance.

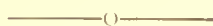




WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

W. H. Harrison

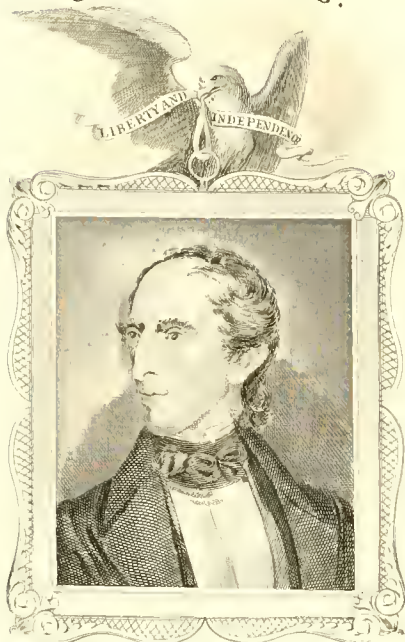
WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the Ninth President, was born at Berkeley, Charles County, Virginia, February 9th, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was a man of prominence, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Governor of Virginia. William Henry received his education at Hampden-Sidney College. He entered the army in 1791, served as aide to Gen. Wayne during the Indian War, received a captain's commission, and resigned in 1797. He was appointed Secretary of the North-west Territory and became its Delegate in Congress. He was Governor of the Territory of Indiana from 1801 to 1813, and also Superintendent of Indian affairs. The famous battle of Tippecanoe was fought November 7th, 1811, in which he gained a decisive victory over Tecumseh, and broke the power of the Indian tribes. He served with distinction during the War with Great Britain; was a member of Congress in 1816; a Senator in 1825; and in 1828 Minister to Colombia. In 1840, after an exciting contest he was elected President of the United States. He assumed the office at an age when most men seek the retirement of the grave, and his worn-out frame quickly succumbed to the over-exertion and excitement attending his resurrection into public life. He died April 4th, 1841.

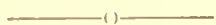
Of William Henry Harrison it can be said that he was honest, simple minded and faithful to his duty. Solid or brilliant qualities he did not possess. His was the first instance of the triumph of expediency over merit in presidential nominations; and it furnished a precedent the following of which has become the rule rather than the exception. Buffoonery was an important factor to his election, and the cry of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," and the parading of Log Cabins with hard cider barrels and coon skins proved more effective than would have the most eminent personal qualifications.

THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
UNITED STATES.



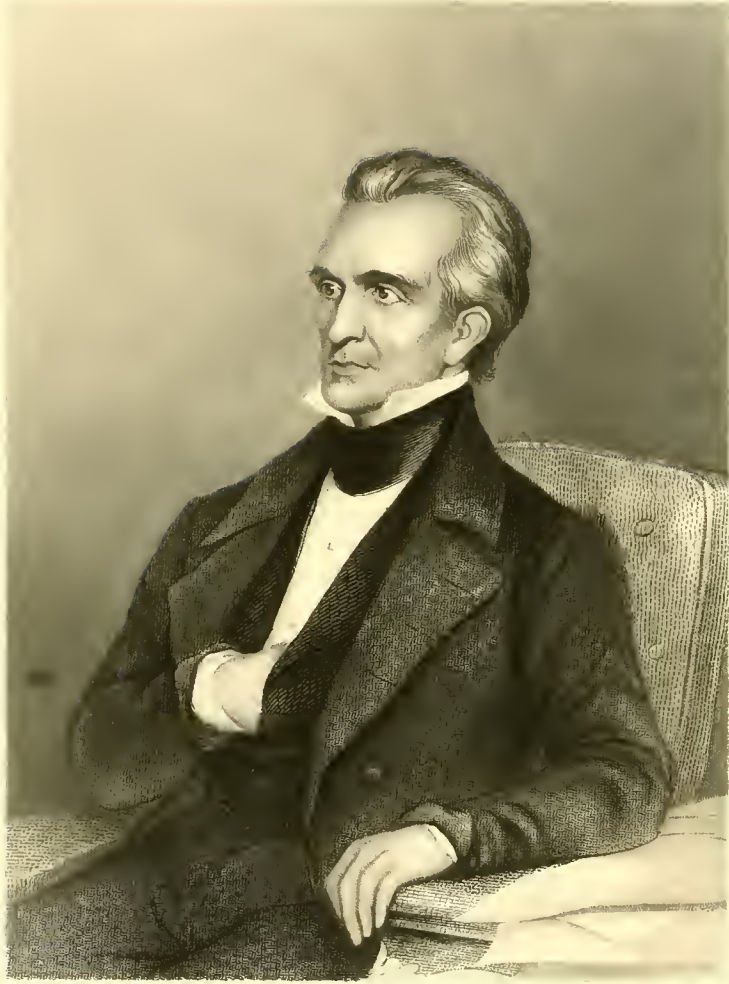
JOHN TYLER.

JOHN TYLER.



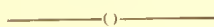
JOHN TYLER, the Tenth President of the United States, was born in Charles-City County, Virginia, March 29th, 1790. He graduated at William and Mary College, studied law and soon entered upon a large practice. In 1811 he was elected to the State Legislature, and in 1816 to Congress. He was Governor of Virginia in 1825, and Senator in 1827. On account of a difference with President Jackson he resigned his seat in 1836. He was elected Vice President in 1840, and became President by the death of Harrison in 1841. He was President of the Peace Convention in 1861, and a member of the Confederate Congress, and died a rebel, January 17th, 1862.

Mr. Tyler's political course appears to have been changeable and erratic. He supported the measures of Jefferson and Madison, and later those of General Jackson; but he abandoned the latter on the removal of the deposits and joined the Whig Party. After he became President his Democratic tendencies were apparent, but he attempted to please both parties and form by this method, as he hoped, a universal Tyler party. The pet project of the Whigs was the re-establishment of the national bank, and although Tyler at first favored the scheme, he vetoed one bill that did not suit him and another one that did; and he was soon in an open quarrel with those to whom he was indebted for his office. He was deserted by all his former political friends, and at the end of his term stood alone without a follower. At the Peace Convention he professed great attachment for the Union, but on his return home exerted his influence to destroy it.



Samuel D. Bell

JAMES KNOX POLK.



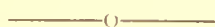
JAMES KNOX POLK, the Eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, November 2d, 1795, and removed with his father to Middle Tennessee in 1806. He was educated in the University of North Carolina, studied law and soon took a high position at the bar. He entered the Legislature of Tennessee in 1823; and was elected to Congress for seven successive terms from 1825, serving as Speaker from 1835 to 1839. In 1840 he was Governor of Tennessee. At the Democratic Convention of 1844 he was given the nomination which by right and precedent belonged to Martin Van Buren, and in the ensuing election was chosen President. He died at Nashville, June 15th, 1849.

President Polk's talents were above the common order. In Congress he was an animated speaker and ready debater; and during his administration, which was one of the most important in our history, he exhibited some elements of statesmanship, particularly in relation to financial and commercial affairs. He was thoroughly loyal to the South, and involved the country in an aggressive war against Mexico to extend the power of the Slaveholders. During his term of office the Oregon boundary dispute was settled; Texas and Wisconsin admitted as States; New Mexico and California acquired; and the Department of the Interior established. His administration in general, might be contemplated with satisfaction had he not labored in a sectional interest, and stood as a representative of the Southern idea.



Z Taylor

ZACHARY TAYLOR.



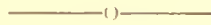
ZACHARY TAYLOR, the Twelfth President of the United States, was born in Orange County, Virginia, September 24th, 1784. He received little education, and remained upon his father's plantation until his twenty-fourth year. He was Commissioned as first lieutenant in 1808; and was made captain in 1810. For his service in the War of 1812, he received the rank of major; and he continued with the army until his election as President, taking part in several Indian wars and in the Mexican war. He was made a Major General in 1846. For his successes in Mexico he received the thanks of Congress and a gold medal; and was presented by the Whig Convention of 1848 as an available candidate, and triumphantly elected. He became President March 4th 1849, and died in office July 9th, 1850.

Zachary Taylor was elevated to the Presidency by popularity acquired in a war which had been unpopular with his party. His personal fitness for civil administration was questioned even by his supporters, for he knew nothing of political matters, had never cast a vote in his life, and probably could have given no satisfactory reason for being a Whig rather than a Democrat. The duties of his office were, however, discharged in a creditable manner, and his popularity increased, especially in the Free States. His term is memorable as the period when the antagonism between the free and slave sections reached a crisis, which was averted by measures he did not live to see consummated. Simplicity and straightforwardness were his prominent characteristics, and he evidently intended to do his duty to the whole country. His character as a military man is indicated by the term, "Rough and Ready," applied to him by his soldiers.



William Pitt Rivers

MILLARD FILLMORE.



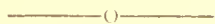
MILLARD FILLMORE, the Thirteenth President of the United States, was born in Cayuga County, New York, on the seventh of January, 1800. He was not liberally educated; but, after learning the trade of a fuller, he studied law, and supported himself for several years by teaching school. He removed to Erie County and practised law for some years with success. In 1829, he was elected to the Assembly, where he distinguished himself by his advocacy of the act to abolish imprisonment for debt. He was a Member of Congress from 1833 to 1835; and again from 1837 to 1841, and took a prominent part in the business of the House. He supported John Quincy Adams in his struggle for the right of petition; opposed the annexation of Texas; favored the abolition of the slave trade, and of slavery in the District of Columbia; and sustained all the important measures of the Whig Party. He was elected Vice President on the ticket with Zachary Taylor in 1848, and by the death of the latter became President in 1850. In 1856, he was the candidate of the American Party. His last years were passed in quiet and dignified retirement. He died at his home in Buffalo, March 8th, 1874.

President Fillmore discharged the duties of his high position with dignity and propriety; and during his administration the American People had no reason to feel ashamed of the personal conduct of their President. The signing of the Fugitive Slave Bill appears to have been his only political sin; and in this, undoubtedly, he felt that he was acting for the best interest of the country.



James H. [unclear]

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

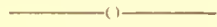


FRANKLIN PIERCE, the Fourteenth President of the United States, was born at Hillsborough, New Hampshire, on the 23d of November, 1804. He was educated at Bowdoin College, and studied law with Levi Woodbury. In 1833, he was elected a Member of Congress by the Democrats; and was chosen United States Senator in 1837. In 1842 he resigned his seat and resumed the practice of the law. President Polk tendered him the offices of Attorney General and Secretary of War, which he declined. An ardent supporter of the annexation of Texas, he entered the Mexican War and was made a Brigadier General. In the Democratic Convention of 1852, after forty-eight ballots, he received the nomination for President, and was elected. Daniel Webster was one of his supporters. General Pierce began his administration by denouncing the slavery agitation; and he gathered around him as advisers the representatives of the extreme southern opinion, who took advantage of their position to plot the ruin of the country. The repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the consequent troubles followed. He used his official power to promote the designs of the proslavery party in Kansas. The Ostend Manifesto was one of the curiosities of his administration. He was a competitor for the nomination in 1856. During the Rebellion he sympathized with the South, and delivered a secession oration at Concord on the 4th of July, 1863. He died October 8th, 1869.

Franklin Pierce was not a Doughface, but a Northern Man with Southern Principles. He early adopted the views of the proslavery leaders, and adhered to them with pertinacity to the end of his life. With Jefferson Davis as the master-spirit of his cabinet, it is not remarkable that his administration was discreditable, and injurious to the welfare of the country. The Kansas iniquities left a stain upon his name which can never be effaced. After his policy as President was developed, he was generally repudiated in the North; and when he retired from office, he found himself as a stranger among his own people.



JAMES BUCHANAN.



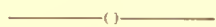
JAMES BUCHANAN, the Fifteenth President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, April 23d, 1791. He graduated at Dickinson College in 1809, and was admitted to the bar in 1812. In a few years he acquired a competency and retired from practice. He served in Congress from 1821 to 1831, when he was appointed Minister to Russia by General Jackson, where he remained two years. He was a Senator from 1834 to 1845, and Secretary of State under President Polk. In 1853 he was appointed Minister to England, and was a party to the Ostend Manifesto. He was nominated for the Presidency in 1856. There are reasons for the belief that a fair vote would have given the office to John C. Fremont; but according to the returns Buchanan was elected. He selected for his cabinet a number of the most unprincipled of the disunionists—men who were afterwards notorious for their villainies—and with the aid of this party of worthies, he carried the nation to the verge of destruction. The President contemplated with indifference and helplessness the acts of the conspirators, until, appalled by the ruin they had wrought, he made near the end of his term, a feeble effort to retrieve the power of the government. After his retirement he published a vindictory volume. His death occurred at Wheatland on the first of June, 1868.

James Buchanan passed nearly forty years of his life in public service. He was during that time, a prominent personage before the country, and occupied many places of honor and trust. Circumstances rather than talents were responsible for this, for his abilities were not of a high order. He yielded himself to the influence of the worst elements in American politics, and forfeited his character and independence for the sake of position. He was weak rather than wicked, and his desire for office overcame every other consideration.



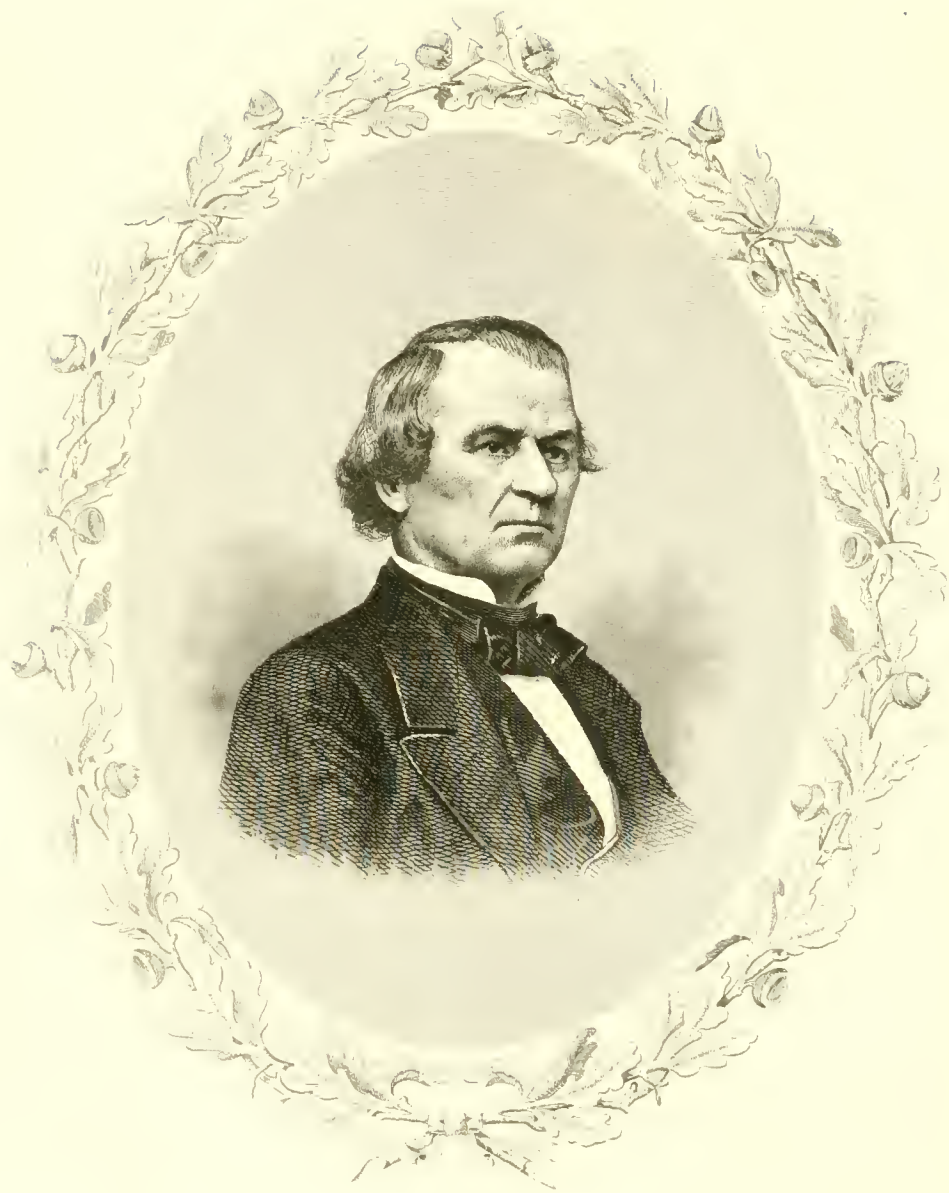
A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.



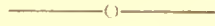
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the Sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin County, Kentucky, on the 12th of February, 1809. He received about a year's schooling, and worked for some time as a hired hand on a Mississippi River flat-boat. In 1830, he removed to Illinois, studied law, and was admitted to practice in 1836. He was captain of a company in the Black Hawk War. His law practice was successful, and he took a prominent part in the politics of Illinois on the side of the Whigs. He served in the Legislature from 1834 to 1841, and was a member of Congress from 1847 to 1849. In 1858, as candidate for Senator in opposition to Stephen A. Douglas, he engaged in a series of remarkable debates with that personage; and the ability displayed in this canvass led to his nomination for the Presidency in 1860. He received the vote of all the Free States except New Jersey. When he assumed his office, he found the powers of the government crippled, its energies restricted, and a large section in open rebellion. His administration was passed in a fierce struggle to maintain the integrity of the Union, and he finally fell a martyr to the cause. He was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth, and died on the 15th of April, 1865.

Abraham Lincoln was one of the best representatives of American Democracy. He rose from obscurity to the highest position, and enrolled his name with those of the benefactors of mankind. The qualities of his mind were solid rather than brilliant: he had a large heart, and a shrewd if not cultivated understanding. Benevolence was a distinguishing trait. His manners had little of polish, and his appearance was uncouth, and often excited ridicule; yet there were occasions when his efforts reached the point of sublimity. The Emancipation Proclamation was the great act of his life, and established the principle for which he died. He occupies a place in the hearts of the American People second only to that of Washington.



Francis Johnson

ANDREW JOHNSON.



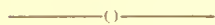
ANDREW JOHNSON, the Seventeenth President of the United States, was born at Raleigh, North Carolina, December 29th, 1808. He learned the trade of a tailor. In his youth he received no education; and it is said that he was taught to read and write by his wife. He removed to Greenville, Tennessee, where he was elected Alderman in 1828, and Mayor in 1831. He became successively State Senator, Member of Congress, and Governor. In 1857 he was elected to the United States Senate, and distinguished himself by his resolute opposition to secession. He made, in February, 1861, a powerful speech of two days, in which he denounced the disunionists as traitors, and exposed their schemes with great force and eloquence. In 1862 President Lincoln appointed him Military Governor of Tennessee. He was nominated for Vice President by the Republicans in 1864, and assumed the office in March, 1865. On the death of Lincoln he became President. His views on reconstruction were widely different from those of a majority of Congress, and a disgraceful quarrel ensued which lasted through his administration. The dignity of each party was sacrificed in the determination to thwart the other; and the legitimate duties of the government were for the time neglected. In the heat of the contest, the President was impeached; but after a long trial, was acquitted. After he retired from the Presidency, he was several times a candidate for office, and was finally chosen Senator from Tennessee in 1874. He died July 31st, 1875.

Andrew Johnson probably possessed more individuality, persistency and pluck than any other President of the United States. Although he was far from right in many of his ideas, his honesty is unquestioned, and his private character is above reproach. In giving his support to the Union before the Rebellion, he placed life, property and position in the balance; and in his later acts which brought him in opposition to the sentiment of the people, it cannot be said that he was moved by considerations of personal interest.



U. S. Grant

ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT.



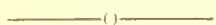
ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT, the Eighteenth President of the United States, was born at Point Pleasant, Ohio, April 27th, 1822. He was educated at West Point, and served in the Mexican War. From 1853 to 1861 he was in private life. When the Rebellion broke out he offered his services to the country, and was commissioned as Colonel. He was made a Brigadier General, May 17th, 1861, and a Major General in 1862. He captured Fort Donelson, and repulsed the Rebels at Pittsburg Landing. He began the siege of Vicksburg in November, 1862; and the fall of this stronghold the following July broke the power of the Confederates in the West. The Chattanooga campaign added to his already brilliant reputation, and earned for him the rank of Lieutenant General. Summoned to the command of the armies in the East, he finally, after several bloody campaigns, brought the Rebellion to a close. As a reward for his services, Congress conferred on him the title of General; and in 1869, the Republican Party made him President of the United States. He held the office eight years.

As a military man, Grant relied more upon force than skill; and in some of his battles he sacrificed more men than any other general of ancient or modern times. In temperament he was persevering, and not easily discouraged. In his administration as President he displayed no especial ability, except in his determination to make the most he could out of the office for himself and his friends. He was the first President that entertained hopes of a third term; and at the last Republican Convention a frantic effort was made by his supporters to secure for him the nomination. No other man in the history of our country has been so amply rewarded, or has received so much from the people as General Grant; and still he cries for more. He isn't dead yet!



R. B. Hayes.

RUTHERFORD BIRCHARD HAYES.



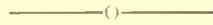
RUTHERFORD BIRCHARD HAYES was born at Delaware, Ohio, on the 4th of October, 1822. He graduated at Kenyon College in 1842, and at the Harvard Law School in 1845. He practised law in Cincinnati, and was City Solicitor from 1858 to 1861. At the beginning of the Rebellion he became Major of the 23d Ohio Regiment, and served in West Virginia. He was wounded at South Mountain; and with the rank of Colonel was for some time in command of a brigade. October 19th, 1864, he was made a Brigadier General; and retired at the end of the War as Brevet Major General. He was a Member of Congress from 1865 to 1868, and Governor of Ohio from 1868 to 1877. At the Republican Convention of 1876 he was nominated for President, and took the chair the following March. Mr. Hayes was not elected to the office, but held it in trust for Samuel J. Tilden, a dilapidated Democrat, who received the popular vote.

After a canvass in which the Bloody Shirt was the only argument, Mr. Hayes astounded the country by inviting to his cabinet an ex-rebel officer, and giving official recognition to tissue ballot elections in the South—offences for which Andrew Johnson would have been drawn and quartered. After this he committed no overt act; and the sins of his administration, if any, are those of omission. He deserves credit for having, in defiance of custom, run the presidential mansion as a temperance house; and for his refusal to attend cock fights and horse races, as had been the habit of some of his predecessors. Further than this he did nothing to distinguish himself during his term of office.



James A. Garfield

JAMES ABRAM GARFIELD.



JAMES ABRAM GARFIELD, the Twentieth President of the United States, was born at Orange, Ohio, November 19th, 1831. At first a day laborer, he was afterwards a driver, and then a boatman on the Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal. In 1849 he attended an academy, and taught a district school the following winter. He entered Williams College and was graduated in 1856. Soon after he became teacher of languages at Hiram College, and was made President of the institution. He was admitted to the bar in 1860. In 1861 he was appointed Colonel of the 42d Ohio Regiment, and gained a victory over the rebels at Prestonburg in January, 1862, for which he was given the rank of Brigadier General. "For gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Chickamauga," he was made a Major General. Having been elected a Representative, General Garfield resigned his commission in 1863 and entered Congress, where he remained for the next eighteen years. He was chosen a Senator to take his seat in March, 1881. In the meantime he was elected President of the United States. Three months after his inauguration, on the 2d of July, 1881, he was assassinated, and died after much suffering on the 18th of the following September.

President Garfield is said to have been more thoroughly learned than any of his predecessors, John Quincy Adams excepted. His election was a repulse to Grantism; and was considered to have been brought about by the better elements of the party. He did not live long enough to clearly develop a policy; and the manner of his death renders it difficult, at this time, to give any correct estimate of his character.

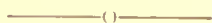


Woman's World



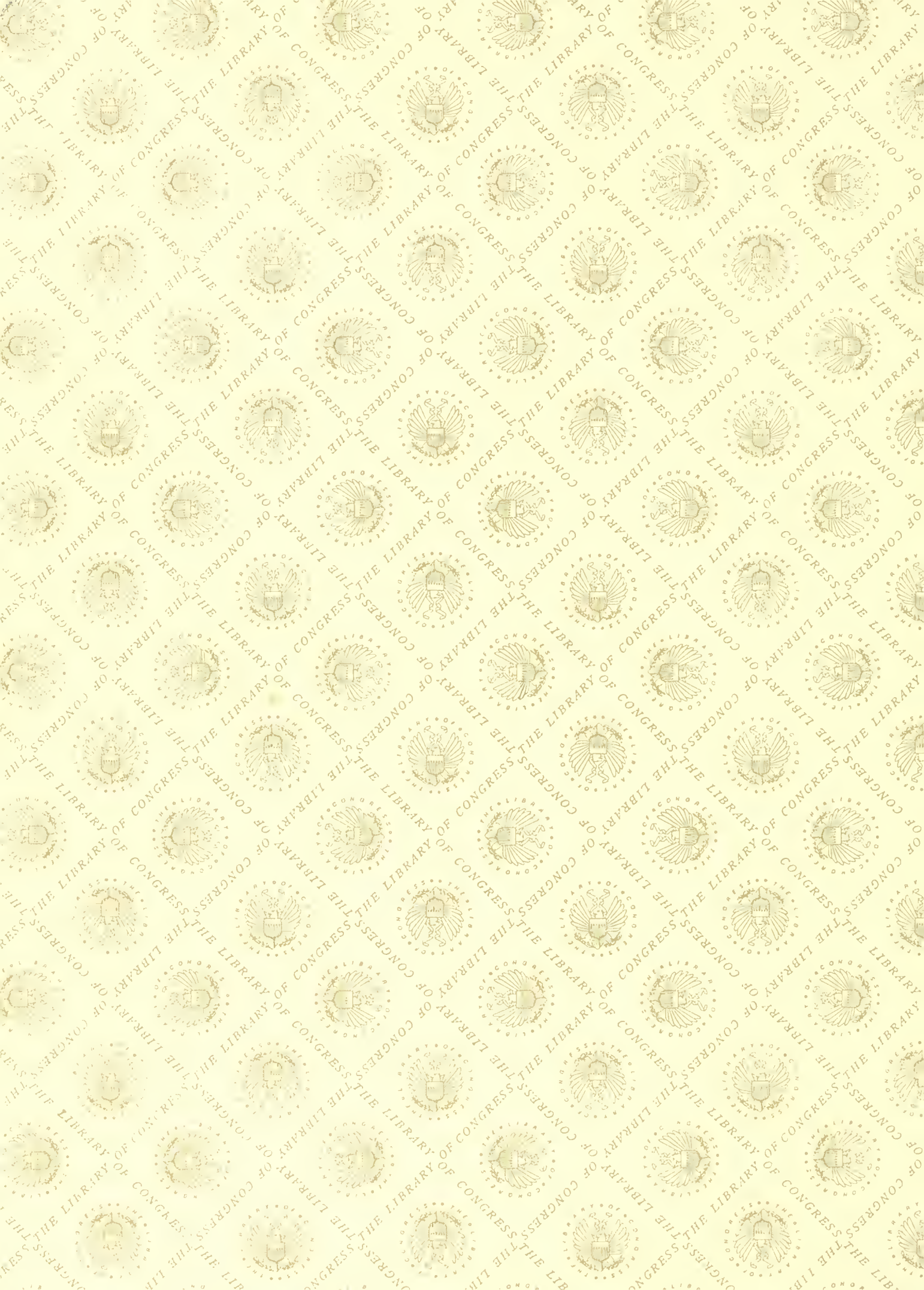
C. A. Williams

CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR.



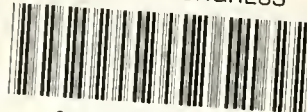
CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR, the Twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Fairfield, Vermont, on the 5th of October, 1830. He entered Union College at the age of fifteen, and graduated in the class of 1848. In 1853 he was admitted to the bar and began practice in the City of New York. Of strong anti-slavery sentiments, he joined the Republican Party, and took a prominent part in politics. He received the appointment of Engineer-in-Chief on the staff of Governor Morgan in 1860; and when the Rebellion broke out, was made Quartermaster-General. The duties of this position he discharged with marked ability and wonderful energy; and during the two years that he was in office, he armed and equipped for the war nearly seven hundred thousand men. On the election of Governor Seymour in 1863, he returned to his law practice, to which he gave his attention until he received the appointment of Collector of the Port of New York in 1871. So satisfactory was his administration that he was re-appointed at the end of his term. He was elected Vice President in 1880; and by the death of Garfield, became President September 18th, 1881.

President Arthur has thus far pursued a dignified and manly course. Let us hope that he will do nothing during his administration to bring dishonor upon himself or his office.





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