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The Kent News.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS, &c.

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THE KENT NEWS,

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, Politics, an General News.

EDWARD MANSFIELD

PROPRIETOR.

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POETRY.

[*From the Ithaca Citizen.*]

THE FINE OLD FEDERAL GENTLEMAN.

Tune—*Lucy Neal.*

Now Democrats, just listen,
The while we sing a song,
About a fine old gentleman
Around whose flag you throng;
He is a nice old bachelor
Of three score years and more,
And, like old Grimes, he wears a coat
"All buttoned down before."
But he is not the lucky man
To take the chair of State;
'Tis Fillmore—the American;
Poor Jimmy, he's too late.

That *coat!*—tho' "buttoned down before,"
Turns often on his back—
'Twas Federal blue in days of yore,
'Tis now Nebraska black;
And every time it takes a change
Its shade the people scan,
For by it they can surely judge
The color of the man,
But he is not the lucky man, &c.

This fine old man, we have been told,
Got troubled in his brains—
And dream'd some Democratic drops
Were coursing through his veins;
Troubled him by night and day—
Of this there is no doubt—
Tho't it would his stock disgrace,
And *swore he'd let it out!*
But he is not the lucky man, &c.

Perhaps this is the reason that
He never in his life
Tried take unto his lonely self
Some fair one for a wife,
For fear some Democratic blood
His offspring might impure,
For Yankee girls, 'tis understood,
Are Democratic—*sure.*
But he is not the lucky man, &c.

Ten cents a day he thinks enough
The laboring man to earn,
Pus in the pockets of the rich
He would his favors turn;
The working men must be kept down,
The nabob must have sway,
And laws enacted for the rich
The poor man must obey.
But he is not the lucky man, &c.

Now, all who labor for your bread,
We'll tell you what to do—
Vote for our American,
He's to your interest true;
He is himself a working man,
And sure will never go
Pay you but a dime a day,
As Jimmy did, you know.
For Fillmore is the lucky man
To take the chair of State;
He is the great American,
And true as he is great.

MISCELLANY.

MILLARD FILLMORE,

EARLY LIFE—HIS PUBLIC SERVICES—HIS UNBENDING INTEGRITY—HIS FUTURE PROSPECTS.

"Fame and Fame from no condition rise;
Act your part—there all the honor lies!"

We can, perhaps, perform no more acceptable service to our readers than to furnish as brief and clear a manner as possible the record which Millard Fillmore, the "Model President," presents to the United States. We do this with the pleasure, knowing full well that the candidate for the Presidential chair never exhibited a more honorable career, or a more blameless private life.

HIS YOUTHFUL DAYS.

Millard Fillmore is in the true sense of the term a self made man, and it is a fact worthy to inspire a spirit of emulation among the youths of America, that without any exceptions, the eminent men of our country have all been the makers of their own fortunes. "It is said that Henry Clay, replying to the taunts of John Randolph: "I was born to a patrimonial estate!" And it is a fact, no doubt, that he could look back, with the eccentric lord of Ashby, to his boasted line of ancestors; but in such a case, Henry Clay could never have warmed his noble soul to the wants, the sympathies and the feelings of the masses, or gained that ascendency in their hearts which entitled him to be hailed as the "Great Commoner." It is so in every case

The life of Millard Fillmore, the candidate of the American party for the office of President of the United States, is another triumphant vindication of republican institutions, as affording that encouragement and opportunity needed for the full development of the intellect and talents of the people. He, too, has risen by his own unaided exertions, to the highest honors in the Empire State and in the Nation. The story of his early career and subsequent success cannot be too often told to the young men of the workshops and the farm. It should be read at the fireside of every hamlet in the land, and the children be incited to imitate his example.

Millard Fillmore was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga county, New York, on the 7th day of January, 1800. He was the son of a farmer, and early occustomed to toil. At an early age he was sent from home to earn his own support, and at twelve was placed with a clothier to learn the business of dressing cloth. Soon after, he was apprenticed to a wool carder, with whom he labored faithfully until he reached the age of nineteen, and became master of his calling. Many anecdotes are related of young Fillmore during this interesting period of his life, showing him to have been early animated by that indomitable spirit which are the surest guarantee of success. He was a great reader and literally "trimmed the midnight lamp" throughout this hey day of his youth, in storing his mind with those treasures of knowledge to which he owes his subsequent greatness. It may be hard for the reader who only knows Mr. Fillmore as the accomplished statesman and the finished gentleman, remarkable everywhere for his polished manners and fine sense, to imagine him pursuing his humble calling in the shop of a mechanic and when his daily task is done, poring industriously over the ample page of knowledge, by the feeble light of the midnight lamp; but such are the "simple annals" of the first twenty years of his life, and true to the manly instincts of his nature, Mr. Fillmore was never ashamed to own his humble origin. It is usually the fortunate lot of every young man of genius at the turning point in his life, to have a patron, who perceives his latent talents, and assists him in finding their appropriate sphere. Henry Clay had such a patron, whose influence controlled his exuberant enthusiasm, and shaped the flights of his youthful ambition. And it was Judge Wood, of Cayuga, who became sponsor to young Fillmore, in the study of his profession as a lawyer. He persuaded him to accept a place in his office, and generously defrayed his expenses through a course of legal study. We need not say how devotedly he applied himself to his new studies, or how he requited the generosity of Mr. Wood, by his remarkable proficiency in the noble science of the law. Suffice it to say that he was competent to leave the office in 1821, and proceeded to Buffalo to complete his studies. Having passed his examination, he became entitled to practice his profession in 1823, and opened an office in the town of Aurora. In 1827 he was admitted as an attorney, and in 1829 as a Counsellor in the Supreme Court. From that period he has occupied a very distinguised position as a member of the bar.

HE IS ELECTED TO THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Fillmore's first entrance into public life was in the year 1829, when he was chosen to the Assembly of New York, to which office he was twice re elected.—By talent and integrity Mr. Fillmore soon won the esteem of his fellow members, until they had such unbounded confidence in his honor and good judgment, that it became a common saying in the Assembly, "*If Fillmore says it's right, we'll vote for it.*" It was due mostly to Mr. F.'s efforts, that a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt was at that time urged through the Legislature.

HE IS ELECTED TO CONGRESS.

In 1832, Mr. Fillmore was elected to Congress, and took his seat in that stormy session which succeeded the removal of the deposits from the United States Bank, by Gen. Jackson. Through this session Mr. F. labored with great diligence to advance the interests of his constituents and his common country, and retired, to resume his profession, with a clear record behind him. In 1836, he was again elected to Congress, served on the Committee of Ways and Means, and took an active part in the long debate which ensued upon the famous "Broad Seal" case, from New Jersey. In this Congress Mr. F. established his reputation as a powerful debater and an indefatigable business man.

HE IS ELECTED TO CONGRESS, AND SERVES AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.

In 1838, he had the honor of being again elected to Congress, and by a larger majority than was ever given in his district. He was appointed Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, then, as now, the most important and arduous position in Congress. Space will not permit us to detail, in this article, the admirable manner in which Mr. Fillmore discharged the duties of his responsible position. Those who are familiar with the political history of that period, know well the difficulties which environed our Government. The death of Gen. Harrison had placed John Tyler in the Presidential chair, and public affairs were in a state of great derangement. The revenue was not sufficient to meet government expenses; accounts were in a state of confusion; there had been peculations in many departments of the public business; the national debt was daily increasing, without any scheme of liquidation; trade and commerce dropped under the pressure of many embarrassments; in fact, distress pervaded the country. To re-arrange all these matters, to create resources, to devise stricter regulations for the public business, to restore prosperity to the country, was directly the duty of the Committee of Ways and Means. To increase their difficulties, the minority in the House seemed bent upon delaying every measure of relief, and, if possible, preventing its passage. These efforts even found countenance from President Tyler himself, who was anxious to conciliate the Democratic party.

HIS ABLE SERVICES.

But, notwithstanding all these heavy embarrassments, Mr. Fillmore labored at the head of his committee with an untiring determination to carry out a thorough reform, and he was eminently successful. Government credit was restored, funds provided, peculations checked; and, finally, to sum up the whole matter, the affairs of our nation was thoroughly regenerated and purified. The great labor of this vast operation, the explaining, defending, and devising of means, came directly upon Mr. Fillmore, and he was found fully equal to the task. Calm, dignified and courteous, eloquent and firm in debate, untiring in business, he at once took the front rank, and held it, unchallenged, throughout the long and arduous session of the Twenty-seventh Congress.

HE DECLINES A THIRD NOMINATION.

Just before the close of the session, Mr. Fillmore addressed a letter to his constituents, declaring his intention not to be a candidate for re-election. Nevertheless, his constituents assembled in convention, and re-nominated him by acclamation. Although highly gratified by this mark of public confidence, Mr. Fillmore adhered to his resolution, and returned to the duties of his profession.—Being now esteemed one of the first lawyers in the State of New York, Mr. F.'s practice widely extended, and in the highest courts of the land he exhibited that clearness of judgment, that capacity for minute investigation, that strong argumentative ability, so often manifested in the halls of Congress.

HE IS NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR.

In 1844, he reluctantly consented to run for Governor, and was defeated, in common with almost all the Whig nominee, not excepting the first statesman in the country—Henry Clay.

HE IS ELECTED STATE COMPTROLLER.

In 1847, in response to a popular call, Mr. F. reluctantly became the candidate for State Comptroller, and was elected by a tremendous majority. He then removed to Albany and entered upon the duties of his office, which were arduous and complicated. His peculiar fitness for the position was acknowledged by men of all parties, and never were the duties of Comptroller discharged with greater ability or trust.

HE IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

The more important events of Mr. Fillmore's life now approach. His talent, prudence and worth, combined with an abiding attachment to the Union and Constitution, had gained him a wide-spread reputation, and it was the desire of his friends to nominate him for Vice President in 1844, on the ticket with Henry Clay. The Whigs of New York in their Convention, unanimously nominated Mr. Fillmore, but in the National Convention, Mr. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, was the successful man.

HE IS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT.

Mr. Polk's term of office expired, and Zachary Taylor, having won a glorious name by his conduct in the Mexican war, was nominated for President by the Whig party, and Millard Fillmore for Vice President. In 1849 he resigned the office of Comptroller, and assumed his position as Vice President of the United States.

HIS CONDUCT AS VICE PRESIDENT.

His address to the Senate at this time was universally commended for the modest, yet dignified tone, and the sound patriotic doctrines it maintained. As President of the Senate, one of Mr. Fillmore's first acts was to revive the legal authority of the presiding officer to call a Senator to order for words spoken in debate. This power had been denied by Mr. Calhoun, in 1826, and was the usage of the Senate. Mr. Fillmore took opposite ground, and in a neat and perspicuous address, on a proper occasion, declared his intention to call any Senator to order who in debate use language unbecoming to his high position. The Senate unanimously, in appreciation of the Vice President's firm and honorable position, ordered his address to be entered upon the Journal, where it now stands an enduring evidence of Mr. Fillmore's firm and conscientous character.

HE IS CALLED TO THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR.

On the 9th of July, 1850, Zachary Taylor, then President of the United States, after a short illness, breathed his last. On the 10th instant, Mr. Fillmore took the oath to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States," and from the well known character of the man, the whole country felt that the solemn promise would be faithfully kept. And so it proved! Our readers need not at this day be told with what signal ability he discharged the duties of that responsible office—how he found his country convulsed by an embittered and sectional strife which threatened the speedy disolution of the Union, but how his wisdom and self-possession at last quieted the storm and restored peace to the land. His administration, as has well been said, was emphatically "Washington-like," and not one of our modern Presidents has left a clearer record behind him at the White House at Washington, to which he can point without a blush, a fear, ar a single regret.

HIS TEXAS MESSAGE.

Almost the first official act on the part of the new Chief Magistrate was to issue a message upon our difficulties with Texas and in a short time the matter was happily adjusted; but we have not space to give particulars. Then came up the great Compromise Measures, which received the support, as indeed they originated, with the venerable Henry Clay.—This important measure also received the cordial sanction of Mr Fillmore

HIS FIRST MESSAGE, AND SUNDRY ACTS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

Mr. Fillmore's first regular message to the Thirty-first Congress was a document of great ability, calm, conciliatory, calm, statesmanlike, and thoroughly American. It presented the affairs of our country in an explicit manner, at the same time proposing such measures as the great interests of the Union seemed to demand.—The second message, delived at the second session of the Thirty-Second Congress, was also a most able State paper, and at this time Mr. Fillmore takes occasion to recommend a change in the *Naturalization laws of our country*, as they are subject to great abuse, and as foreign influence was beginning to manifest itself in an unmistakeable and repugnant manner among us. During the session of this Congress (Democratic) Louis Kossuth was received and entertained, not only at Washington, but throughout the Union. Many important measures were devised and put into execution by this same Congress, and to all those tending to benefit our country and increase its prosperity, Mr. Fillmore gave his cordial consent.—His administration, (with the Hon. John P. Kennedy, of Baltimore, as Secretary of the Navy,) also originated and prepared the Expedition to Japan, which has won so much honor to the American name.

HE INTERCEDES FOR THE MADAI FAMILY.

About this time the Grand Duke of Tuscany imprisoned an Italian family for the crime of reading the Protestant Bible. This Papal outrage attracted attention from the whole civilized world. By the direction of Mr. Fillmore, Hon. Edward Everett, then Secretary of State, addressed a letter to the Grand Duke, asking, in the name of the American people, that the Madai family might be released. This request was granted, and the family, once more at liberty, sought a safe refuge from Papal oppression.

HE IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

The nominations for the Presidential canvass of '52 now became exciting topics of debate. The Whig Convention assembled at Baltimore, and the first ballat for candidates resulted in the following vote: Fillmore, 133; Scott, 131; Webster, 29. The contest was very spirited, but on the fifty-third ballot Gen. Scott received 159 votes, and was declared nominated. On the same ballot Mr. Fillmore received 112 votes, which shows how earnest were his friends.

HE RETIRES TO PRIVATE LIFE—HIS SERVICES.

On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Franklin Pierce. We must not forget to mention that during Mr. Fillmore's administration occurred the ill starred expedition of Lopez to Cuba, and although urgent efforts were made by the United States authorities to prevent the sailing of this unlawful expedition, they proved unavailing, and the fate of Lopez, Crittenden, and their unfortunate, deluded companions, is well known.

In reviewing the public life and the administration of Mr. Fillmore, we see much to admire, and nothing to condemn. In this brief sketch it is impossible to dwell at length upon the character of a man, who, in every condition of life, in poverty and in affluence in the humblest and in the highest station, has proved himself honest, capable, true to the Constitution; devoted to our glorious Union, firm in adherance to American institutions! What more, fellow-citizens, can be asked?

On retiring from the Presidential chair once more to private life, Mr Fillmore carried the unbounded esteem of all who had been associated with him, and the great men of all parties, with Henry Clay at their head, joined in commending the wisdom, integrity, prudence and honor with which he had presided over the affairs of our nation.

HE IS IN FAVOR OF A CHANGE IN THE NATURALIZATION LAWS.

Mr. Fillmore had for several years been of the opinion that a radical change was needed in our emigration and naturalization laws, and when the American party, advocating these reforms openly and zealously, arose like a young giant in its strength, Mr. F. was one of the first to enter its ranks. He at once joined the American Order, and is at this time a member, in good standing, of Council No. 177, in the city of Buffalo. We know this to be the fact; and if elected to the Presidency, the American party will find that their confidence could never have been placed in a better or a more consistent man.

HE VISITS EUROPE.

Nearly one year ago Mr. Fillmore sailed for Europe, and since that period has visited nearly all the Continental States; thus adding to his already ripe ideas of government, by a close examination and comparison of the institutions of Europe with those of our own free and enlightened land. He has observed for himself the deteriorating and blasting influences of monarchy, the degrading condition of monarchial governments, the pall of ignorance which broods over these lands where a free press and free speech are prohibited, the ruinous consequences of superstition and licensed crimes. Viewing all these things in their proper light, contrasting the fading glory of one continent with the dawning greatness of another, we cannot doubt that Mr. Fillmore returns to his own beloved country with, if possible, a deeper reverence for its illustrious founders, a more endearing love for its ennobling institutions, a higher pride in its extending influence, than ever before.

HE IS NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT.

On the 22d of February, 1856, Mr Fillmore was unanimously nominated by the American party in convention, for the Presidency, with Andrew J. Donelson, of Tennessee, for Vice President. The nomination was accepted, and every born of his country is now called upon to do his duty. And if elected, as we earnestly trust he will be, to fill again the Presidential chair, we have an abiding trust that his administration will be honorable to himself, glorious to our Union, and true to the great doctrines of the American party.

HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.

On the 22d of June, Mr. Fillmore arrived at New York, and was received with every demonstration of regard from the corporation of New York and his fellow-citizens, without distinction of party.—In course of a reply to a brief address of welcome, delivered by an eminent citizen of New York, Mr. Fillmore uttered the following patriotic sentiment:

"If there be those either North or South, who desire an administration for the North as against the South, or for the South as against the North, they are not the men who should give their suffrages to me. For my part I know only my country, my whole country, and nothing but my country."

A Safe Man for the South.

On the 11th day of April, 1826, *James Buchanan* of Pennsylvania, the champion of Southern rights(!!) who received the nomination of the Cincinnati Convention for the Presidency, said:

"Permit me here, Mr. Chairman, for a moment, to speak upon a subject, to which I have never before adverted upon this floor, and to which, I trust, I may never again have occasion to advert. I mean the subject of slavery. I BELIEVE IT TO BE A GREAT POLITICAL, AND A GREAT MORAL EVIL. I THANK GOD MY LOT HAS BEEN CAST IN A STATE WHERE IT DOES NOT EXIST. * * * * IT HAS BEEN A *CURSE* ENTAILED UPON US BY THAT NATION WHICH MAKES IT A SUBJECT OF REPROACH TO OUR INSTITUTIONS."

[See Gales & Seaton's Register of Debates, page 2,180, vol. 2, part 2.]

The above speech was made in the House of Representatives, eleven years after his 4th of July Oration, and six years after his famous Lancaster Anti-Slavery resolutions! Will "Old Buck" put in the plea of "infancy" to this charge as he does to the charge of Federalism?

State Elections.—On the first Monday in August elections will be held in the States of Kentucky, Arkansas, Texas Missouri, and Iowa; and on the seventh of August in North Carolina and Tennessee; on the first Monday of October in Georgia and Florida; and on the second Tuesday of October in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana. On Tuesday after the first Monday of November, in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, and Michigan. Presidential election is held in all the States on the same day in November.

FRANK'S LAMENT.

BY J. R. W.

Tune—"*Villikins and his Dinah.*"

In the White House at Washington, there dwells a man,
I'll not tell you who, you may guess if you can;
Poor soul, he's in trouble, and sad at his fate;
His friends all have left him and scorn him of late.
Chorus—Sing tu ral lal tu ral &c &c.

Oh! what have I done—now, this little man cries,
That my friends have deserted, and now me despise;
'Tis wicked and cruel, but alas! 'tis my luck,
To thus be discarded for old "Jimmy Buck."
Sing tu ral lal tu &c.

Would that I'd not been enticed from my home;
A weak mortal like me should have never here come;
For demagogues surely will make me a fool,
Then kick me from office, and call me a fool.
Sing tu ral lal tu &c.

A tool for the South I confess I have been;
How ungrateful they are now 'tis plain to be seen;
Like the "Irisman's Pony" they flogged me too free,
And the North now all swear that I'm like "Paddy's flea."
Sing tu ral lal lu &c.

Oh! Jimmy, how cruel that you should come back;
I sent you to London to be kept off the track;
But since you have done so, I now do rejoice
To know that you'll not be the people's next choice.
Sing tu ral lal lu ral &c,

'Tis true, you know, Fillmore is no friend to me,
But he's the friend of the people, I now plainly see;
All sections approve, and his course do endorse,
And he'll beat both the "Buck" and the famed "Woolly Horse."
Sing tu ral lal lu ral, &c

The Great Wrought-Iron Gun.—This ponderous instrument of warfare has now been waiting for three weeks the arrival of some of the government officials, to test its power. So far, it appears to have surpassed the anticipations of even military officers. An instrument weighing nearly 22 tons, manufactured of wrought-iron, and throwing a ball, upwards of 300 lbs. weight, a distance of more than four miles, with its present low degree of elevation, and with a very small quantity of powder, is what was not expected by the military men present at the experiments. Such is the case, too, of loading the gun, ponderous thought it is, that it can be fired, and charged and fired again in less than ten minutes, only six men being required for the operation. Of its destructive powers, little is yet known; but if the effect of the trial made on Thursday, the 22d ult., be any evidence—namely, the smashing to fragments a slab of iron a ton weight, and 4½ inches thick—no walls yet constructed would stand before its terrible projectile force; and it is not much to say of the gun, that, within range of a broadside of the finest line-of-battle ship in the world, one charge would be sufficient to completely destroy the largest ship that ever sailed.

The mere flight of the ball as seen close to the gun, is no test of its power? He who would wish to see the effect of the missile, must go to a distance of a little beyond 2½ miles. The ball can be distinctly observed in its career, although the noise made in its rapid transit thro' the air may affect even a staong nerved person, and cause him to believe himself on unsafe ground. As soon as the ball drops it tears up the ground for some distance, and sends the sand many yards high in the air. It then plunges on its course, and continues to do so until it is fully spent. The excavation made in the ground on its first descent is two or three feet deep. Slung on Mr. Julius Roberts' principle, at an angel of 15 to 75 degrees, the ball could be projected a much greater distance, while its destructive effect would be greatly increased. If such a gun were employed against a place like Odessa, where all the public buildings and all the principal houses are bomb proof, a few hours would suffice to level them.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

Keep it before the People?—Hereafter let ten cent pieces be no longer called a "dime"—or a "shilling"—but let "Old Buck" have the honor of naming it—and let it be so called—"a Jimmy!" Let the table of "Federal Money" be changed and let the boys shout in school hereafter,

Ten Mills make one Cent,
Ten Cents one Jimmy,
Ten Jimmys one Dollar,
Ten Dollars (or 100 Jimmys) one Eagle.—*Raleigh Sentinel.*

James Buchanan in 1815.—The following passage is found in an oration delivered by Mr. Buchanan, July 4th 1815:

"What must be our opinion of an opposition whose passions were so dark and malignant as to be gratified in endeavoring to blast the character and embitter the old age of Washington? After thus persecuting the savior of his country, *how can the Democratic party desire to call themselves his disciples?*"

☞ One of our Western villages passed an ordinance forbidding taverns to sell liquor on the Sabbath to any persons except travellers. The next Sunday every man in town who wanted a "nip" was seen walking around with a valise in one hand and two carpet bags in the other.