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W. F. DURISOE, PROPRIETOR.

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POLITICAL.

From the Baltimore Republican and Argus. JAS. K. POLK, OF TENNESSEE.

An account of the history of this distinquished patriot will doubtless, at this time, prove highly acceptable to our readers, and we therefore proceed to the task of giving such a sketch as our time and limits

James K. Polk was born in Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, on the 2d day of November, 1795, and is now in the 49th year of his age. The original name of his ancestors was Pollock; they emigrated from Ireland more than a century ago, and first settled themselves in Maryland, where several branches of the family still remain. That branch from which our candidate more immediately sprung, removed first to the vicinity of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and thence to the western frontier of North Carolina, some time before the Revolutionary war. Thus. Polk, well known as one of the signers if not the prime mover, of the celebrated Mecklenburg declaration of independence, was the grand uncle of our nominee-Indeed, the whote family were noted for their uncompromising democratic princi ples, and to this day are characterized for their sturdiness of independence which led Colonel Thomas Polk, with others to ab solve themselves under their signatures month before the Jeclara tion of Congress in 1776. Of the people of Mr. Polk's native county, it has often been said, as an evidence of their bold and ready patriotism, that "at the last war they took up arms six months before, and did not lay them down till twelve months after, the government." A man born from such ancestors with his infancy nurtured in the atmosphere of such a region, can be nothing but a democrat-an unyielding, uncompromising democrat; and

such a man is James K. Polk. Mr. Polk's father was an unassuming but enterprising farmer. He was the maker of his own fortune, and a warm supsupporter of Mr. Jefferson. In 1806, he became one of the first pioneers of what is now the most flourishing and populous portion of Tennesses. In our wilderness settlements, the opportunities of education of course, are very scanty. Notwithstanding this difficulty, however, our candidate managed to get the elements of an English education. And so earnest were his desires for improvement, and so ardent his appeals, that, although on account of ble health he was placed for a few weeks in a store with intent of making him a commercial man, yet the resistance from which he graduated in 1818, earrying off the highest distinction in his class, and with a reputation of being the best

scholar both in classics and mathematics. Early in 1819, Mr. Polk commenced the study of law with the late Senator Grundy, and late in 1820 was admitted to the

In 1823, then in his 28th year, he was chosen to represent his county in the legislature of Tennessee. Here be remained sition gave him to aid with others, in calling Andrew Jackson from his retirement, by electing him to the United States Senate. For this venerable and venerated man he entertained an early personal and political friendship—a friendship which, to this moment, has never known a shadow,

of turning.' In 1825, then in his 30th year, Mr. Polk was elected as a member of Congress.— Bringing with him the soundest principles of the democratic shool, he soon became known as a republican of the "strait-, est sect." With only one or two exceptions, he was the youngest member of the House of Representatives, and an opportunity was not long wanted to give evi- about 4,000 votes more than in 1841.

principles. The election of John Q. Adams to the presidency by the House, led to a proposition to amend the Constitution in such manner as to give the choice of President and Vice President directly to the people. This is what ought to be the case-the whole system of voting through electors is wrong, and needs repeal. In favor of this proposition, Mr. Polk made his first speech in Congress, which we are told, "at once attracted the attention of the country by the force of its reasoning, the copiousness of its research, and the spirit of honest indignation by which it was animated. It was at once seen that his ambition was to distinguish himself by subtantial merit; rather than rhetorical dislay, "the rock upon which most young

At the same session, the notorious scheme of old federalism known as the "Panama nission," was broached. Against this atempted subversion of the rights and powrs of the House Mr. Polk took a bold esolutions based upon the doctrines of the epublican party of '98.

In December, 1827, Mr. Polk was plaed on the important committee of foreign ffairs. He was also chairman of the seeet committee to which was referred that portion of Jackson's message in reference to the probable accumulation of a surplus in the treasury after the anticipated extinguishment of the public debt. The report made by him from this committee s filled with the soundest doctrines, ably and lucibly enforced.

The session of 1830, is noted for the death blow given by Jackson to the unconstitutional system of internal improvements by the general government. Mr. upon him, and his veto by which the monster was strangled.

at this session he so distinguished himself in this committee, in the contest with the U. S. Bank. His minority report brought against him the whole power of the bank. How nobly he sustained himself against the profligate misrepresentations and ouscrupulous efforts of that power can never be forgotten by the country. His ene-mies still bear in mind his unyielding efforts and tireless energy; his friends are now to reward him for his unshakon patriotism and iron decision, which in the whole of that fearful contest, never gave he merciless energy of hellish despera-

In 1833, the corruption and open defiance of the United States Bank determined the President to the removal of the public deposites from its vaolts. A man of boldness to suggest, and courage to act, was needed as chairman of the Ways and from all allegrance to Great Britain more The shock was to be a formidable one. contest was to be fiercer than ever. not do justice to the man who stood foremost in this fearful conflict. Who does ed lady, the daughter of Mr. Nicklin, an not remember the session of 1833? Who has forgotten the hopes and fears-the deman that then led on our ranks in the House of Representatives, until, in the tri umphant victory, the band yielded in despair, and the righteous cause of the people was again in the ascendant? That man was James K. Polk. And now, when the whole country turns with sickening disgust from the carcass of the mouster, reeking with corruption, and cursed with the tears and sufferings of the widow and orphan, who will hesitate to do honor to him who in the conflict stood out so manfully, and did battle in the very foremost rank, until the victory was, won, and the enemy lay expiring at his feet?

In December, 1835, Mr. Polk was eleced Speaker of the House, and he was chosen again to the same high station in '37. of his father was overcome, and after due In the performance of his arduous duties, preparation, at an academy, he entered in he was noted for his diguity, promptitude 1815, the University of North Carolina, and impartiality. "His calmness and good temper allayed the violence of opposition. in a station for which his quickness, coolness and sagacity eminently qualified him. He is said never to have missed a division, his name being found upon every list of yeas and nays. His manner as a Speaker was distinguished by great courtesy, never naving been known to indulge in offensive personality. In one word, his popularity his course, his conscientious performance for two successive years; and with pride of his duties as a representative, his unhe looks back to the opportunity this poing, and his unspotted private character. Calm, sagacions, active, decided and en dowed with great political capabilities, few men have been selected upon which the party without a dissenting voice could be better united at the ballot box.

Since Mr. Polk left Congress, his history is well known. His election as governor of Tennessee, against an opposition to which no ordinary man could have succeeded, shows the strong hold he had upon people of that State. It is true, that in 1841 and 1843, he was defeated; but in the first, Jones, his competitor, obtained a majority of only 3,224, when Harrison had a former occasion, in general convention. 12,202; and in 1843, Mr. Polk received they presented their candidates for the po-

dence of his capacity as well as of his From the Democratic Banner, Feb. 1844.

GEORGE M. DALLAS. Mr. Dallas was born in the city of Philadelphia on the 10th of July, 1792. He is the elder son of Alexander J. Dallas, one of the most accomplished advocates and distinguished statesman that have adorned the legal profession of the United States, or sustained, in important posts of public trust, the principles and policy of the Republican party. He received the rudiments of his education at a school in Germantown, and afterwards at the Friends' Academy in Philadelphia. At the age of 14. he was entered in Princeton College, and continued there until 1810, when he was graduated with the highest honors of his class. He delivered their valedictory address, which is still remembered and adverted to in the college history as a striking example of feeling, eloqueure and taste. Indeed, as a public speaker, he gave early promise of that excellence which has since been displayed in many of the prominent situations to which his tand, embodying his views in a series of talents have elevated him; and a published oration, delivered when he was but seventeen years of age, and preserved in the Port Folio, strikingly attests the maturity of his powers.

father, at Philadelphia; and although, in the intervals of that severe study, the more attractive forms of literature and poetry were not unfrequently cultivated, he yet persevered with encreasing application in making himself a thorough master of the great principles of the profession of which he has since been so distinguished a member. He was admitted to the bar in 1813. Soon after the deciration of war with England, he enrolled himself in a volunteer Polk stood out foremost in the contest in corps; and when in the year 1813, Mr. Galsustaining the President; vindicating the latin was appointed by President Madison man against the personal abuse heaped a member of the commission that repaired to St. Petersburg, for the purpose of negotiating a peace under the emperor Alex-In 1832, Mr. Polk was a member of the ander he accompanied that Minister as his Committee of Ways and Means. It was private and confidential secretary. During a residence of more than a year in Europe Mr. Dallas had an opportunity of visiting Russia, France, England, Holland, and the

On leaving college, Mr. Dallas commen-

ced the study of the law in the office of his

Netherlands. In August, 1814, he returned to the United States, bearing the despatches from the American commissioners then holding their sessions at "hent, which announced the prospects little favorable to a speedy peace that are known to have resulted from the earlier conferemes with the British envoys. On his arrival, he found his father transferred from the bar of Philadelpia to way a bair's breadth, nor shrunk from the the head of the Treasury Department-a deadliest blows aimed as they were, by post requiring, in the complicated state of arms mighty in power, and nerved with the finances, and amid the pressing exigencies of the war, all the resources of judgement and talent for which he was now destined to display through a brilliant administration of two years, under circumstances and in manner that secured for him a yet larger share of the applause and confidence of the people of the United States. His son remained with him for a time at Wash-But he proved himself equal to all that the mence the actual practice of his profession crisis demanded. This short sketch can- an event that was almost immediately followed by his marriage with an accomplish-

eminent merchant of that city. In the year 1831, Mr. Dallas was selectnunciation of opponents-the defection of ed to fill a vacancy in the representation friends-the wavering of the timid-and from Pennsylvania, in the Senate of the the stern defiance of the sound hearted who United States. On the expiration of his stood by the "old man of iron will." Who form he retired from the Senase of the U. can forget that contest? Who was the S. and was selected by Govenor Wolf, as Attorney General of the State of Pennsyl-

The next most conspicuous event in Mr. Dallas political life was his appointment by Mr. Van. Buren, immediately after his election, to the post of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentia ry to Russia, where he remained till October, 1839. Since Mr. Dallas' return from Russia he has devoted himself to the practice of his profession.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM. The following declaration of principles, presented by the Hon. B. F. Butler, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, was unanimously adopted by the Baltimore Convention.

Resolved, That the American Demoracy place their trust not in factitious symbols, not in displays and appeals insulting to the judgments and subversive of the intellect of the people, but in a clear reliance upon the intelligence of the patriotism, and the discriminating justice of the American masses.

Resolved, That we regard this as a distinctive feature of our political creed, which we are proud to maintain before the world as the great moral element in a form of Government springing from, and upheld by, the popular will, and we contrast it with the creed and practice of Federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to palsy the will of the constituent. and which conceives no imposture too

montrous for the popular credulity. Resolved, therefore, That, entertaining hese views, the Democratic party of this Union, through their delegates assembled in a general Convention of the States, coming together in a spirit of concord, of devotion to the doctrines and faith of a free representative Government, and appealing to their fellow citizens for the rectitude of their intentions, renew and re-assert before the American people, the declaration of principles avowed by them, when on pular suffrages :-

1. That the Federal Government is one of limited powers, derived solely from the Constitution, and the grants of power shown therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the Government, and that it is inexpedient and dangerous to exercise doubtful consti-

tutional power.
2. That the constitution does not confer upon the General Government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements.

3. That the Constitution does not confe authority upon the Federal Government directly or indirectly, to assume the debte of the several States, contracted for local internal improvements, or other State pur poses; nor would such assumption be just

and expedient;
4. That justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of ano ther, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to complete and ample protection of persons and property from lomestic violence or foreign aggression.

5. That it is the duty of every branch of the Government to enforce and practice the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that no more revenue ought to be raised than is required to defray the necessary expenses of the Government.

6. That Congress has no power to charter a National Bank; that we believe such an institution one of deadly hostility to the best interests of the country, dangerous to our republican institutions and the liberties of the people, and calculated to place the business of the country within the control of a concentrated money power, and above the laws and the will of the people.

7. That Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of every thing appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the Abolitionists or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most slarming and dangerous consequences, and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend to our political institutions.

8. That the separation of the moneys of the Government from banking institutions is indispensable for the safety of the funds of the Government and the rights of the

9. That the liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, and sanctioned in the Constitution, which makes ours the land of liberty, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles Means. James K. Polk was such a man. ington, to assist him in the arduous duties in the Democratic faith; and every attempt of the Treasury, and then returned to Phil- to abridge the present privilege of becoming adelphia, to resume, or rather to com- citizens and the owners of soil among us, ought to be resisted with the same spirit which swept the alien and sedition laws from our statute book.

Resolved, That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be sacredly applied to the national objects specified in the Constitution; and that we are opposed to the law lately adopted, and to any law, for the distribution of such proceeds among the States, as alike inexpedient in policy and

epugnant to the Constitution.

Resolved, That we are decidedly opposed to taking from the President the qualified veto power by which he is enaled, under restrictions and responsibilities, amply sufficient to guard the public interest, to suspend the passage of a bill whose merits cannot secure the approval of two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, until the judgment of the people can be obtained thereon, and which has thrice saved the American people from the corrupt and tyrannical domination of the Bank of the United States.

Resolved, That our title to the whole of the Territory of Oregon is clear and un questionable; that no portion of the same ought to be ceded to England or any other power; and the re-occupation of Oregon, and the re-annexation of Texas, at the earliest practicable period are great Amercan measures, which this convention recommends to the cordial support of the Democracy of the Union.

Resolved, That the convention hereby presents to the people of the United States JAMES K. POLK, of Tennessee, as the candidate of the Democratic party, for the office of President, and GEORGE M. DALLAS, of Pennsylvania, as the candidate of the Democratic party, for the office of Vice President of the U. States. Resolved, That this convention hold in

the highest estimation and regard their il lustrious fellow-citizen, Martin Van Buren of New York; that we cherish the most grateful and abiding sense of the ability, integrity, and firmness with which he dis charged the duties of the high office of President of the United States, and especially of the inflexible fidelity with which he maintained the true doctrines of the Consulution, and the measuses of the Democratic party during his trying and nobly arduous administration; that in the memorable struggle of 1840, he fell a martyr to the great principles of which he was the worthy representative, and we revere him as such ; and that we hereby tender to him, in his honorable retirement, the assurance of the deeply-seated confidence, affection, and respect of the American Democracy.

of the U. S., in support of the principles of the Democratic party and of the candidates presented, as their representatives, by this convention, be prepared by the committee on resolutions, and be published by them.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this convention be signed by its officers, and published in the Democratic Republican newspapers of the United States.

From the Washington Spectator, June 1. SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE CON-VENTION.

An incident occurred in the National Convention yesterday, near the close of the balloting, when nearly all the States had voted; which excited deep sensation, It was manifest that a unanimous vote was about to be east for Polk; when, in the enthusiasm which the union of the party on him had made universal, Mr. Kettlewell of Maryland sprang upon his seat, and in a strain of animated and eloquent remarks congratulated the Convention on the glorious and happy issue of their deliberations. He said that there was but one thing wanting to render this reunion of the Republican family complete; the absence of one Democratic and beloved sis-

ter. "Where, (said he,) is South Caroline? Is there no one here who represents her, and can answer to the call of sli her sisters on this joyous occasion? No one to speak what the glorious little Palmetto State will do in the noble struggle for the principles and success of our great party?" Voices were heard on every side crying "yes! yes! yes! Here they are who can answer;" pointing to Mr. Pickens and Mr. Elmore, delegates who were present. The cry now, from every part of the vast assemblage, was absolutely deafening, for "South Carolina!" "Sounth Carolina!" "Pickens !" "Elmore !"-These gentlemen, who were sitting in the rear of the members of the Convention. rose up together-the shouts redoubled until the building seemed to rock under them. Voices from every part of the Hall called for them to go forward to the President's seat. As they emerged into the Convention, the whole body, by spontaneous impulse rose, greeted them with nine cheers, and the most enthusiastic demonstrations of cordiality. The patriotic Vice President, Roane, of Virginia, descended and met them in the aisle, and conducted them, by direction of the President and Vice Presidents, to seats on the elevated platform occupied by them and the Secretaries.

. The call for a response from S. Carolina was deafening, but before either of the gentlemen could reply, a Delegate from Missouri, whose name is not known, arose, and objected to South Carolina's being heard before the vote of Missouri was cast. These gentlemen declined to say any thing until the requirement of Missouri was complied with, and she had voted, Georgia, Illinois, and other States, that had not voted, were called upon, but each in turn refused to, vote, until South Carolina had been heard from. This courteous and dignified course seemed to declined, the response of her Delegates was greeted with the loudest demonstrations of pleasure.

Mr. Pickens then rose, and returned his grateful acknowledgments, in glowing terms, for the high honor done his State and himself, and for the manner the Convention had invited and received him and his colleague. He said they found, it impossible to resist so warm and generous so kind a call as that passed upon them. He stated that the position of South Carolina prevented himself and his colleague from taking their seats as delegates, or voing in its deliberations, while they were there, by the advice of friends in whose judgment they reposed confidence, to say to the Democratic Republican party, in case they presented a candidate true to the principles of the Constitution and the party, what would, in all human probability, be the course of their State, He said they had no right vote for, or pledge, South Carolina, and all they could say was, that he had no doubt she would faith fully sustain the able and, distinguished gentlemen indicated, to whose worth, and sound Republicanism, and abilities, he paid the highest compliments. Mr. Pickens here paid a just tribute to the talents, firmness, and patriotism, of Mr. Van Buren, during his Presidency.

He then sketched ably the great ques-

tions in issue, and contrasted with power and eloquence the leading points of difference between the Whig party and our own. He expressed the most perfect confidence of success, and roused and animated the party for new efforts, He declared himself for Oregon and Texas.— He declared the issue made on the latter, a great American measure—the cause of liberty and of freedom from foreign dictation. Mr. P. closed amid the most enthusiastic applause of the audience.

Loud calls were then heard from ever quarter of the ball, of 'Elmore!' 'Elmore which were increased and prolonged until that gentleman, evidently laboring under strong emotion, arose and addressed the assembly. He said that he would be in-sensible, indeed, if he did not feel deeply the kindness extended by the convention to him and his colleague, as the representative of a State which was ever deepes in his heart. That he was literally overpowered, and unable to say more than that he was profoundly grateful.— He said, this call had come from a quarter that could not be resisted. In the war that privilege," are the just causes offered for had given South Carolina her liberty, Ma- their simultaneous movement.

Resolved, That an address to the people | ryland had come to her rescue at her great est need, and in many a hard fought field, the best blood of her noblest sons had mingled upon her, soil, with that of the most devoted of her own, We have, said he, too many recollections to be grateful to her, to stand back now, when the "Marye land Line" calls South Carolina to her rescue. She wheels into position, side by side with her sistes, and charges with the noble son, (Gen. Howard,) in this second war of deliverance, as she with the gallant father charged at Cowben—will fight to-gether, as our sires fought at Camden and Euraw; and while we thus, in part discharge the debt, we return, said he, our most grateful acknowledgements for the services, we never can forget or fully re-pay. We come; too, said the gentleman, led forward by the "Mother of States," and by one of those of her own honored patriots, [Judge Roane,] whose very name is identified with all the struggles of liberty. We cannot resist—we are here—here in the midst of you, to answer for the Pal-

metto State as far as in our powers go. Mr. E. continued. His colleague bad adverted to the views of South Carolina and themselves, in regard to the organization of the Convention, They were such as precluded them from taking their seats, from voting or participating in its proceed ings further than to respond as they had done, a hearty amen to what the Convention had done so far, That especially in the selection of their candidate, she had no cause to complain. He had long known the gentleman selected. It had been one of the pleasing events of his life, that he was selected to offer at the close of his then Congressional existence in 1839, the resolution of thanks from the House of Representatives, for his ability; and honorable discharge of the duties of Speaker. He knew him to be a true Republican, of pure morals, of sterling patriotism, in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas, and worthy of the high destiny opened to him. and he had no doubt his State would accord sincerely, and support him with unanimity. He said they could not enter her, vote on the record, nor consent that South Carolina should be made a party in the Convention, yet that would not render her less prompt to de her part in the great contest. She was not represented in the Convention of 1840, and yet she gave a more unanimous vote fer Mr. Van Buren than any State in the Union. He felt no. fears but that she would, in 1844, give to James K. Polk an equally decided and unanimous supports because he was a true exponent of the Democratic Republican

Mr. Elmore closed amid the most deafuing plaudits, and the States having here all called through, it was announced that the Convention had unanimously nominated as the Democratic candidate for the

JAMES K. POLK, of Tennessee.

WHO IS HENRY CLAY? Jackson's Opinion of Mr. Clay. "Under such eircumstances how contemptible does this demagogue appear when he descends from his high place in retailing slanders upon the living, and the

Webster's Opinion of Clay. bout him ever to gain my support."

"Henry Clay is merely a splendid ora-tor, without sny, valuable knowledge from experience or study, or ANY DETER-MINED PUBLIC PRINCIPLES, founded in political science, either practical or

Harrison's Opinion of Clay. "I will do my duty, even if Mr. Clay is be benefitted by u. from whom I have experienced only UNGENEROUS TREAT-MENT IN REQUITAL FOR YEARS OF DEVO ED SERVICE !!

Randolph's Opinion of Clay.
'He is talented but corrupt. He sinks, and shines, and shines and stinks, like a rotten mackerel by moonlight."

"The Blue Hen's Chicken's."-As our eaders have doubtless observed this phrase frequently used in connection with the his-ile State of Delawars, we give the followng explanation from the Baltimore Amer-

it will be recollected that Delaware adopted the banner of Blue Hen's Chick-ens," in honor of her Revolutionary, Sol-diers, who by their gallantry, in thirtythree pitched battles, won the name of game cocks, and from their blue uniforms the State was called by the soldiers, "Blue, Hen's" and her troops the "Blue Hen's" Chickens."

If marriage places a woman in that. sphere where she may vittain the greatest, happiness, so does it advance her station of power and responsibility. Her power over her husband's happinese is almost absolute. By wisdom, by steadinese, by hippearance, by meckness, she may be to him a tower, of strength, but no tongue can tall the ways in which she can annoy him & make him wretched.

Upwards of sixty Country Postmasters all of respectability, have thrown up their commission in Canada—their, pality pay's and the late withdrawal of their "franking."