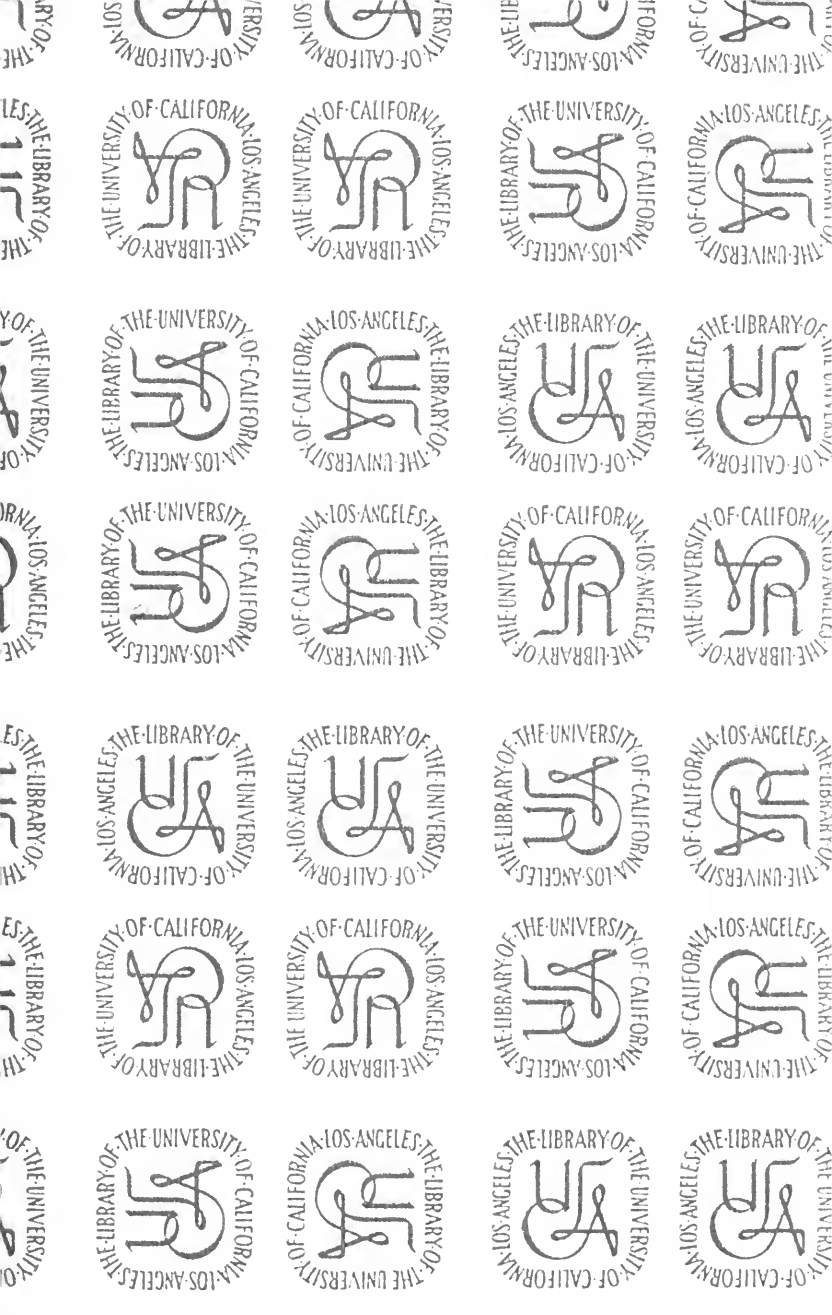


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AMERICAN NOMINATIONS:

FILLMORE AND DONELSON.

BEING AN EXTRACT FROM A WORK ENTITLED

THE GREAT AMERICAN BATTLE;

OR,

The Contest between Christianity and Political Romantism.

BY MISS ANNA ELLA CARROLL,
OF MARYLAND.

WITH TEN ACCURATE PORTRAITS (ON STEEL) OF DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF
THE AMERICAN PARTY.

New York and Auburn:

MILLER, ORTON & MULLIGAN,

NEW YORK: 25 PARK ROW AUBURN: 107 GENESEE ST.

1856.

P L A N
OF THE
G R E A T A M E R I C A N B A T T L E.

THIS book is designed to arouse the American People to an intelligent insight into the dangers which environ them, from the invasion of a Foreign Hierarchy and a trained Foreign Army, that have assumed to hold the balance of power in our Civil Government, until the true American is trampled down, and his rights are invaded every day; and, to show that this power has as its coadjutor the National Executive of the country, which has moved with a single eye to the glory of the Foreign Despot, to whom it owes its elevation, by an American Ballot-box! It appeals to the American women, to move with the same zeal to arrest our destruction, to drive back our invaders, as they manifested in 1776, when a cause no dearer than this brought out their patriot mothers! It appeals to the Press, the great exponent of public opinion—the engine which can plead with mightiest force—to come and succor Liberty! It shows the dangers and insidious wiles—occult and open—of our fierce adversaries, practised upon the youth of our country committed to their schools! It makes one and the same the American Party of 1776, of which Washington was the great leader, and that of to-day! It shows that the principles it upholds must endure while the Union stands! It affirms what this Party means to perform; forbids foreign aggression; tells what the Constitution says on Naturalization; makes the distinction between Protestant and Papal foreigners; gives the origin and progress of the Know-Nothing Order; reminds the American People that they are again in a Revolution, and calls on one and all to muster for that Battle, in which, it is sincerely hoped, the Pen and the Ballot-box will prove mightier than the Sword.





Millard Fillmore



A. S. Donelson

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CHAPTER XXV.

AMERICAN NOMINATIONS.

"Now conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this is our motto—in God is our trust,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave,
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave!"

THE Convention to repair our diseased national life, has just closed its deliberations at Philadelphia. And God, who only measures and comprehends our danger, and looks upon future actions as *done*, was to it, "first, last, midst, and without end." On! on! seemed the silent but resistless voice, which made the hearts of patriots leap into their heads, and sent a thrill of vital force, fierce and firm, in response to that question, which knocked at every true American soul, "Who hath required this at your hands?" What a man has done, is the best test he can furnish of what he will do. And hence the gushing spontaneity, the nation-wide sympathy, the rapturous devotion with which the name of Millard Fillmore came, free from solicitation, unblemished by cunning, or wrinkled by selfishness, as the anchor of hope to the American party—the surest means at command for the salvation of our country and deliverance from the aggregated ills which have combined to curse and crush our great nationality.

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In Mr. Fillmore we recognize the friend of our whole country, embracing zealously the principles for which the American party are now contending, and having imposed upon himself all the *obligations* of the American Order, is now placed before the people as their American candidate, to administer the government, if called by the free suffrages of American voters, only as an American President! Casting aside forever all former party affiliations or designations, he will require of all the people but the same scrupulous test of American principles which has induced them, in their own sovereignty, to call him to their support in the administration of the government! And the wisdom and power of the American principle, that the Presidency of these States must be an *unsought* gift, is manifested in the nomination of Millard Fillmore, of New York, and Andrew Jackson Donelson, of Tennessee, as food to the blood of the American party! The life, the services, the integrity, and the honor of Millard Fillmore were the guarantees to the party, and to the country, who are now jubilant with joy, at the sacred assurances these furnish, that he will be faithful to the glorious Union, and will maintain the equal rights and equality of all the States! At home and abroad, the government will be administered fairly, firmly, and purely, in conformity with American principles, and to the honor and glory of the American name. The star of hope has appeared in the good Providence of God, and the nation now turns to Fillmore and Donelson for deliverance in this their time of trouble. It is well with the man, says the prophet, with whom

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even his enemies are at peace. And when even Gov. Wise, of Virginia, magnanimously called the administration of Millard Fillmore, Washington-like, we can understand the confidence with which *all* the people are now inspired; and realize the assertion of those who sat around his council board, that not a thought was ever expressed, nor an act performed, during his continuance in office, that would not have been worthy of Washington himself! "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, and unto all the inhabitants thereof," was the language of Holy Writ, inscribed upon the Bell which rang the annunciation of our National Independence in 1776! Since we became a free and happy people, we have never needed, so much as now, hearts of fire, to rouse, strengthen, and emancipate our country from the doating nurses and rickety judgment of men who have, by the smack of their own whip, attempted to keep down patriotism, by flogging Americans, and putting their God-conferred liberty in the swaddling bands of superstition and idolatry! When now the honored names of Fillmore and Donelson, fresh and bright, spring like a sunbeam upon the American mind, it feels the need of no keener weapon than that of truth, to sound the depths and the shallows of the intelligence of the people which embodied the American principles, and made the American party their undying benefactor! With the private and personal history of Mr. Fillmore, the public are already familiar; and the purity of his life, and the invulnerable nature of his character, impregnable to assault, is the great and indestructible element of all his mental

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and moral power. A gentleman by nature, though born without any of the advantages or accompaniments of fortune, he learned, in the experience of his own history, how best to estimate and appreciate the value of American institutions. With the limited means of his father, he worked as a boy upon his farm, until the age of twelve years, when he assumed the responsibilities of his own support, and became apprenticed to a clothier, to learn the art of dressing cloth; and subsequently to a wool-carder, where he remained until the age of nineteen, so assiduously cultivating, at the same period, his comprehensive intellect, as to have remedied, in a great degree, the deficiencies of his early education. But such nobility, justice, and integrity, as he thus early represented, were soon discovered by a distinguished member of the bench, in his native county of Cayuga, New York, and at the instance, and by the assistance of this generous benefactor, and the aid afforded by a school which he himself conducted, Mr. Fillmore prosecuted his legal studies, and was admitted to the bar, at Buffalo, in 1823, and assumed the practice of law in the town of Aurora the same year. His march has, since that epoch, been steadily onward. Advanced, professionally and politically, by intrinsic merit, the sturdy and uncompromising friend of Right, he has spent his life, from the clothier's shop to the Presidential retirement, under the brilliant guidance of good sense, and illustrating at every step the same indomitable energy and decision in the performance of every trust which he manifested to Americans when called by a benefi-

cent destiny to preside over the administration of their national government!

The name of Andrew Jackson Donelson carries with it, too, the untamed and untamable energy of the popular and honored General Andrew Jackson. It rouses tingling sensations in the nerves of the American people! It enkindles afresh the inspiration of the past, and seems to shrivel every obstacle into ashes in connection with the immortal Hero of the Hermitage! Major Donelson was reared under the guardianship of General Jackson, and thus learned that the strength of American men should be given to break the clanking chains of all civil and religious intolerance. He showed the vitality of his thinking principle, by his rapid attainment to proficiency in the studies of Cadet, and graduated with distinction at West Point, in 1819. He immediately bore a commission in the corps of Engineers, and subsequently was appointed Aid-de-camp by General Jackson, with whom he continued while the General remained in the army. When the cities and plains of the country rang by acclamation for his call to the Presidency, Major Donelson resigned his commission in the Army, and gave the most of his time to facilitate the great popular movement which resulted in the elevation of General Jackson to the Chief Magistracy of the nation. He now accepted the position of his Private Secretary, and as a member of the President's family, he remained for the two terms of his administration in charge of his private, as well as official correspondence. Upon the retirement of General Jackson to private life, Mr. Donelson was tendered, but de-

clined, a high appointment under his successor, Mr. Van Buren, and returned with General Jackson to his estate adjoining the Hermitage in Tennessee, where he continued to aid him in a correspondence still as extensive as the nation he had filled with his fame.

In 1844, when the influence of the Tyler administration was prostrate, and had proved too narrow to secure the annexation of Texas, a messenger was dispatched to Gen. Jackson, desiring him to induce Mr. Donelson to accept the appointment of Minister to that Government, and manage the negotiation. In his absence, in Mississippi, when the messenger reached the Hermitage, the General returned the assurance to Mr. Tyler that he would comply with his request. And Mr. Donelson, a warm supporter of that measure, repaired immediately to Texas and succeeded in securing such a modification of the views of President Houston, as to bring about the act of annexation in a manner satisfactory not only to both Governments, but to the people of both countries, who thus mutually increased the depth and strength of their resources.

The records of the State Department at Washington, under the administration of Mr. Tyler and his successor, Mr. Polk, furnish evidence of the unmeasured wisdom, purity, and able intelligence which Mr. Donelson displayed in that ever memorable transaction. Upon the election of Mr. Polk to the Presidency, he desired the aid of Mr. Donelson in his councils; and a Cabinet appointment was urged upon his acceptance. He, however, preferred a mission to Prussia, and in 1846 took up his residence at

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that Court, where he remained until the revolution and the formation of a new central government at Frankfort-on-the-Maine. To this he was also an accredited Minister, acting at *both* Courts, until relieved at Berlin, by a successor, appointed by Mr. Polk. The central Government at Frankfort relapsed to its former condition after the revolution of 1848, and Mr. Donelson, in 1849, being recalled by President Taylor, closed his connection with the public service of the country. The letters in the State Department from President Taylor attest the highest appreciation for his fidelity and usefulness as the representative of his government. During the agitation caused by the acquisition of Mexican Territory, Mr. Donelson was induced to leave his private interests near the Hermitage, for a short time, and conduct the Washington Union, to hasten the harmonious adjudication of that difficulty. He has been a consistent opponent of the administration of Mr. Pierce, and of the anti-American influences which elected him and now control his action; and, occupies the position to which the American Party has just called him, only because he saw and acknowledged the vital action of that *one* thought; that the force, power and dominion of our own nationality must be traced in letters of fire on the brow, and become the crowning glory of Americans, now or never!

And now, Americans, with a party that stands only upon the broad basis of the Constitution, and solemnly recognizes the rights of all, from the forest and prairies, the lakes and rivers of our Continent, let there be one

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common stand, irrespective of all parties, for the American flag and American principles, having inscribed upon our stars and stripes our American brothers, Fillmore and Donelson.

When Washington was called by Congress to lead on an embattled host to victory, there were present those who preferred the favorite son of Massachusetts. But that spirit which fuses, thinks, feels, interpenetrates the patriot soul, and directs it, made that choice then a vital and indissoluble unit. So now, let no personal preference reveal an outward impulse which is not eager for action under the halo of light, which is borne upon our American banner. And as in the times which tried the souls of our fathers, when the mechanics of New York City boxed up their tools, and the ploughmen of New England left their implements in the furrow, to secure the great ends for which the declaration was made—so now, may all considerations but the glory of our common cause and common country, be boxed up or left; and the people, old, middle-aged and young, with the mothers, sisters and daughters of our land, form one great, vast, executive force, to elevate our national principles by men who will never be found Peter's to the sovereign majesty of the American people!

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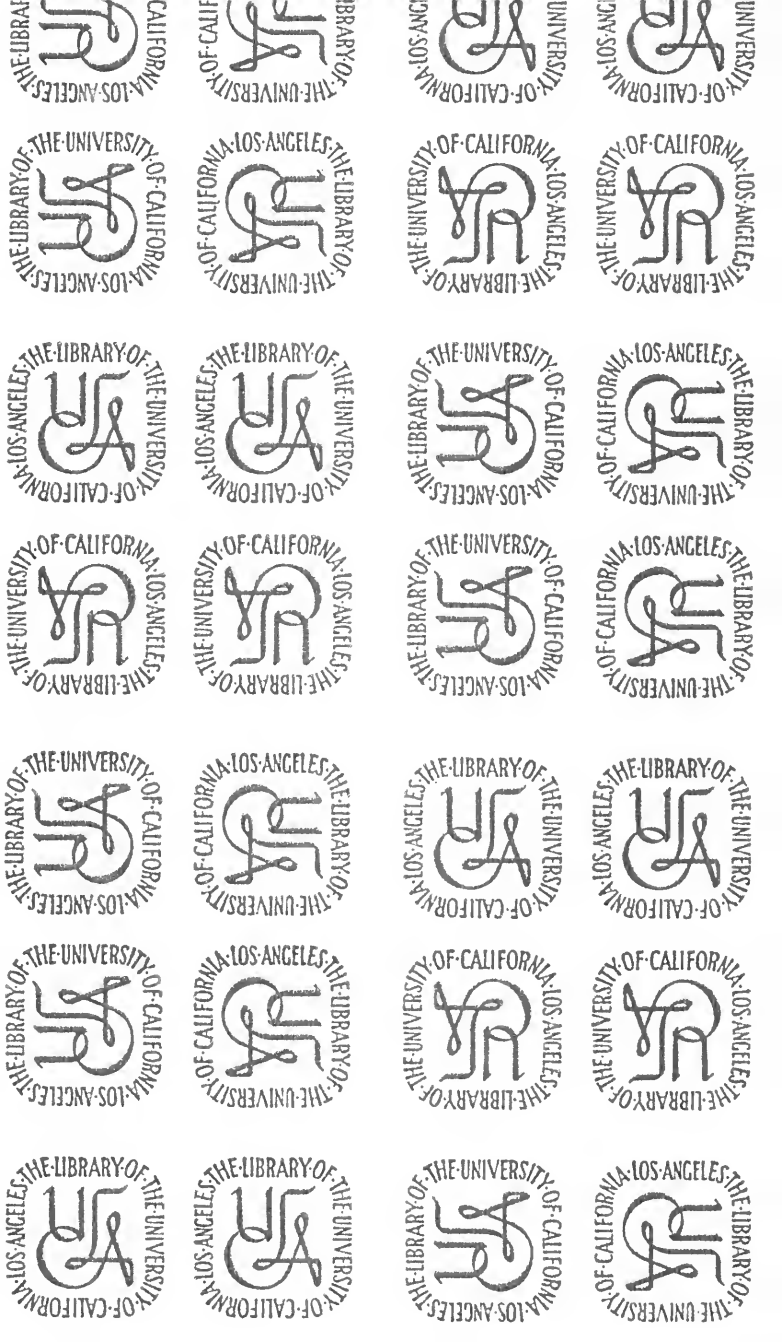
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