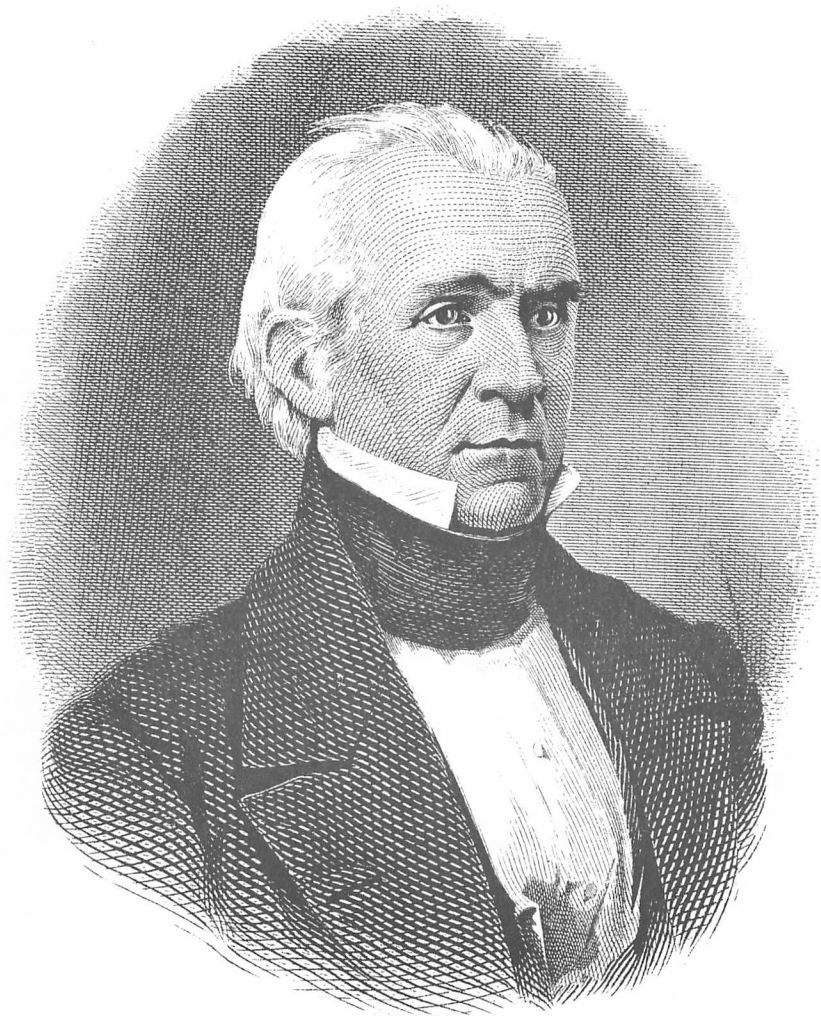
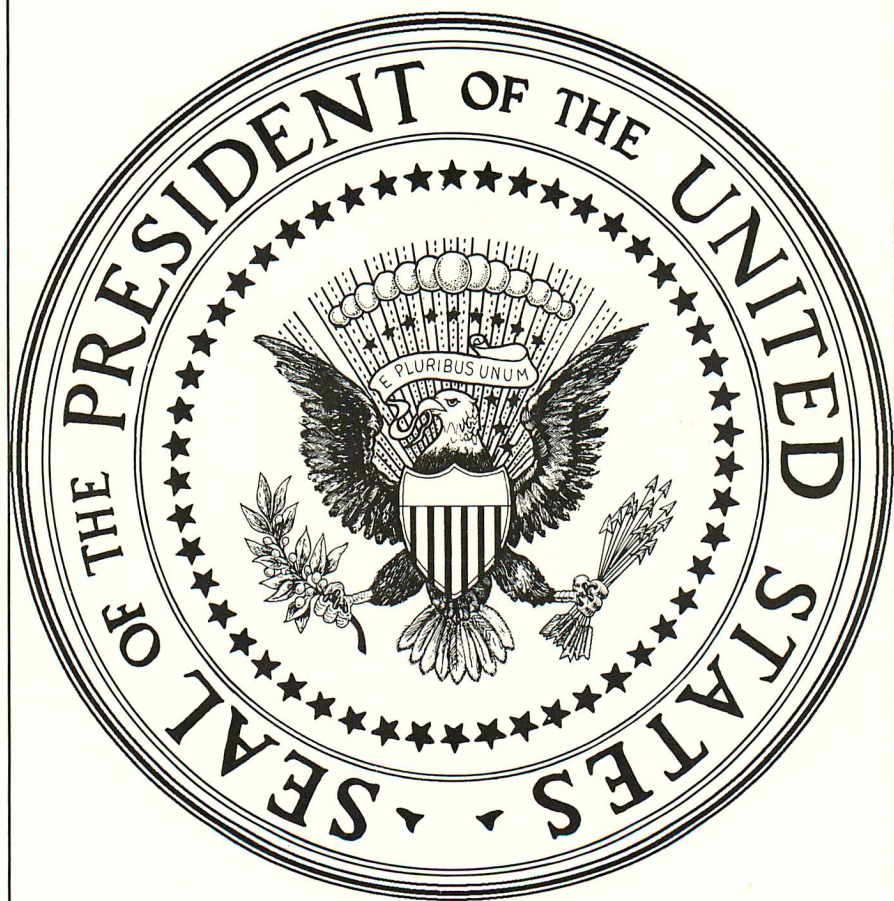


11





11. JAMES KNOX POLK

"The First Dark Horse"

1845 — 1849

Democrat

Birthdate: November 2, 1795

Birthplace: Mecklenburg Co., N.C.

Education: Univ. of North Carolina

Occupation: Lawyer

Home State: Tennessee

Married: Sarah Childress, 1824

Children: None

Died: June 15, 1849

Place of Death: Nashville, Tenn.

Place of Burial: Nashville, Tenn.

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Fifteenth

Vice-President: George Mifflin Dallas

EVENTS IN POLK'S LIFE

1819 — Clerk of the Tennessee Senate

Admitted to the Tennessee Bar

1823-1825 — Member of the Tennessee House of Representatives

1825-1839 — United States Representative from Tennessee

1835-1839 — Speaker of the House

1839-1841 — Governor of Tennessee

1844 — Elected to the presidency

EVENTS DURING POLK'S PRESIDENCY

1845 — Texas is admitted to the Union as the 28th state.

1846 — United States declares war on Mexico.

United States annexes New Mexico Territory.

Iowa is admitted to the Union as the 29th state.

Famine in Ireland results in massive emigration to the U.S.

Smithsonian Institution is founded in Washington, D.C.

Sewing machine is invented by Elias Howe.

Oregon Treaty between the U.S. and Great Britain is signed.

Territory of California declares itself an independent republic.

1847 — U.S. Army captures Mexico City.

Mormons establish Salt Lake City.

Thomas Alva Edison is born.

Alexander Graham Bell is born.

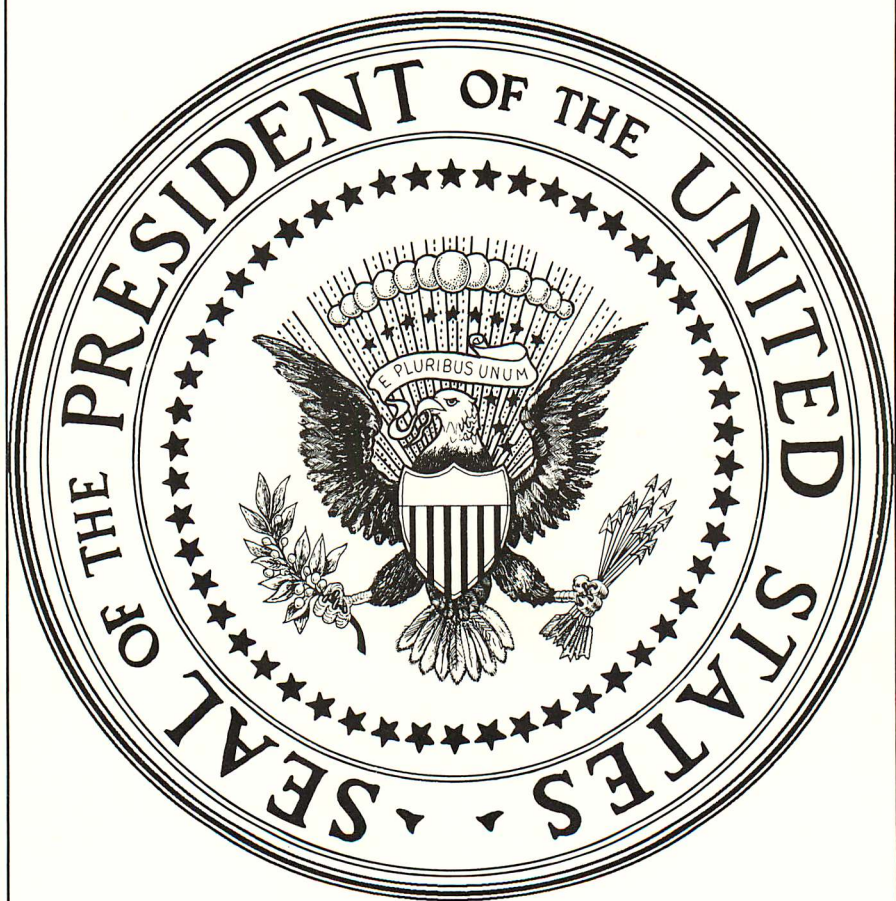
1848 — Gold is discovered in California, leading to the Gold Rush of 1849.

Wisconsin is admitted to the Union as the 30th state.

United States and Mexico sign peace treaty.

The *Communist Manifesto* is published by Marx and Engels.

"Foreign powers do not seem to appreciate the true character of our government. Our Union is a confederation of independent states, whose policy is peace with each other and all the world. To enlarge its limits is to extend the dominions of peace over additional territories and increasing millions." 1845



12





12. ZACHARY TAYLOR

"Old Rough and Ready"

1849 — 1850

Whig

Birthdate: November 24, 1784

Birthplace: Orange County, Va.

Education: Public schools

Occupation: Soldier

Home State: Kentucky

Married: Margaret Smith, 1810

Children: Four

Died: July 9, 1850

Place of Death: Washington, D.C.

Place of Burial: Springfield, Ky.

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Sixteenth

Vice-President: Millard Fillmore

EVENTS IN TAYLOR'S LIFE

1808 — Began military career as a First Lieutenant

1812-1814 — Served in the War of 1812

1832 — Served in the Black Hawk War

1837-1840 — Served in the Second Seminole War

1846-1848 — Served in the Mexican War

1848 — Elected to the presidency

EVENTS DURING TAYLOR'S PRESIDENCY

1849 — Clayton-Bulwer Treaty between the United States and Great Britain is signed.

Edgar Allen Poe dies.

Who's Who begins publication.

California Gold Rush begins.

1850 — President dies in office of typhus.

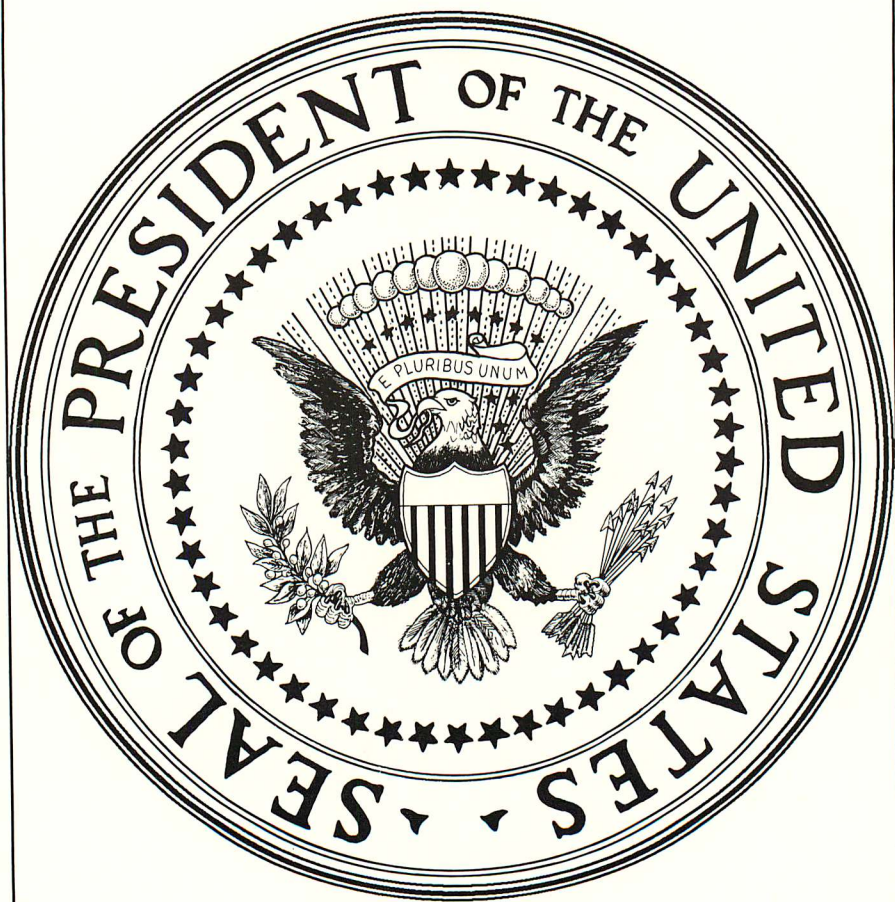
"For more than a half a century, during which kingdoms and empires have fallen, this Union has stood unshaken. The patriots who formed it have long since descended to the grave; yet still it remains, the proudest monument to their memory."

1849



13





13. MILLARD FILLMORE

"The Wool Carder President"
1850—1853
Whig

Birthdate: January 7, 1800	Married: Abigail Powers, 1826
Birthplace: Locke Township, N.Y.	Caroline McIntosh, 1858
Education: Public schools	Children: Two
Occupation: Lawyer	Died: March 8, 1874
Home State: New York	Place of Death: Buffalo, N.Y.
	Place of Burial: Buffalo, N.Y.

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Sixteenth
Vice-President: (None)

EVENTS IN FILLMORE'S LIFE

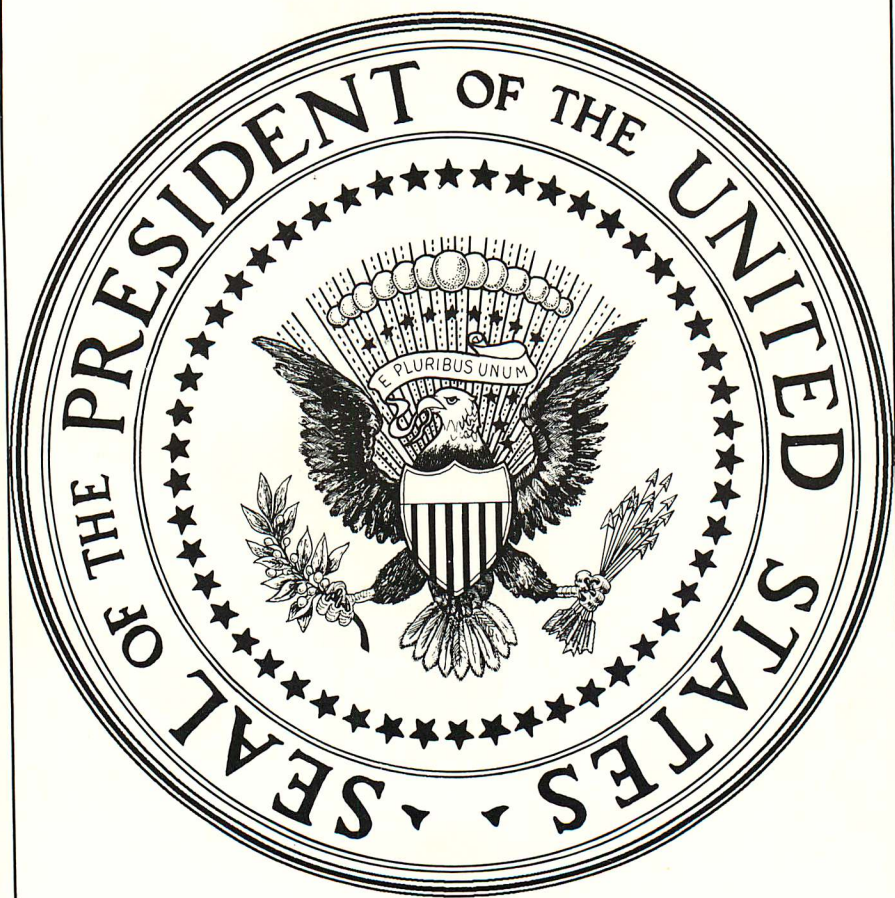
- 1814-1819 — Worked as an indentured servant to clothmakers
- 1819 — Earned his freedom from indenture by paying \$30
- 1823 — Admitted to the New York Bar
- 1829-1831 — Member of New York State Assembly
- 1833-1835 — U.S. Representative from New York
- 1837-1843 — U.S. Representative from New York
- 1848-1849 — Comptroller of New York State
- 1849-1850 — Vice-President under Zachary Taylor
- 1850 — Succeeded to the presidency on Taylor's death

EVENTS DURING FILLMORE'S PRESIDENCY

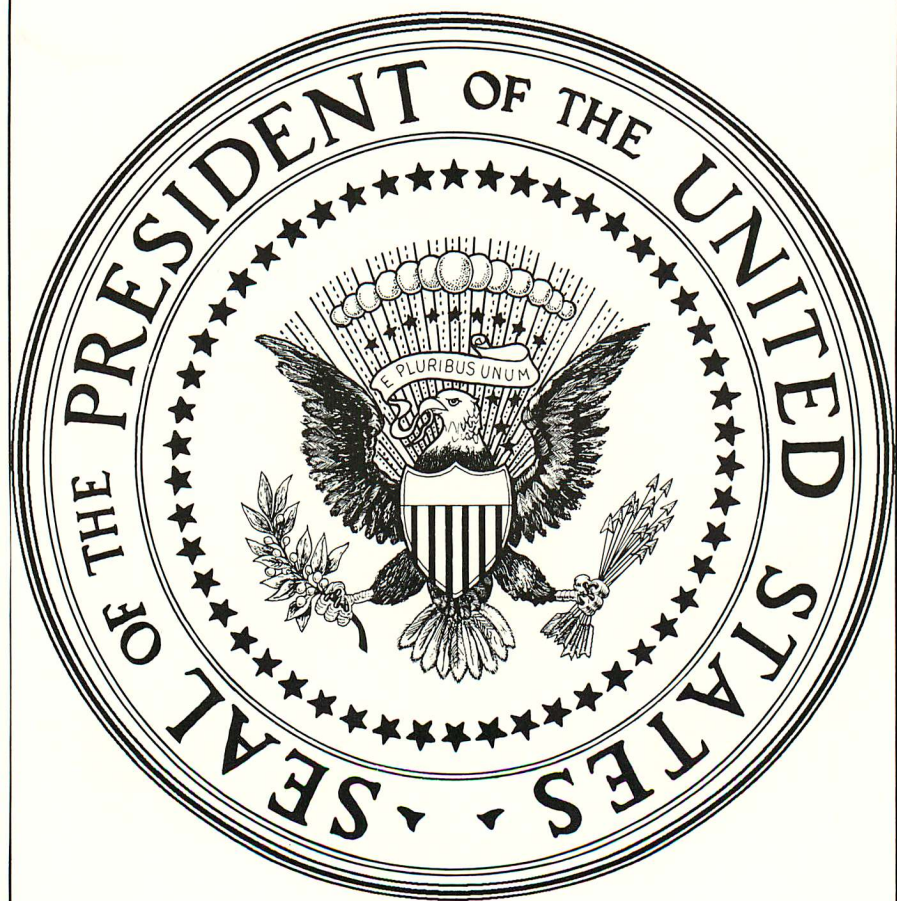
- 1850 — Compromise of 1850 enacted.
California is admitted to the Union as the 31st state.
New Mexico and Utah territories are organized.
Slave trade is abolished in the District of Columbia.
The Fugitive Slave Act, requiring the return of runaway slaves, is passed.
- 1851 — The *New York Times* is first published.
The U.S. Capitol building and Library of Congress are partially destroyed by fire.
- 1852 — Harriet Beecher Stowe publishes *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
Commodore Perry's mission to Japan begins.

"The government of the United States is a limited government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an especial duty to guard against any infringement on the just rights of the States."

1850







14. FRANKLIN PIERCE

"Handsome Frank"

1853 — 1857

Democrat

Birthdate: November 23, 1804	Married: Jane Means Appleton, 1834
Birthplace: Hillsborough, N.H.	Children: One
Education: Bowdoin College, 1824	Died: October 8, 1869
Occupation: Lawyer	Place of Death: Concord, N.H.
Home State: New Hampshire	Place of Burial: Concord, N.H.

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Seventeenth

Vice-President: William Rufus DeVane King (1853)

EVENTS IN PIERCE'S LIFE

- 1827 — Admitted to the New Hampshire Bar
- 1829-1833 — Member of the New Hampshire Legislature
- 1831-1832 — Speaker of the New Hampshire Legislature
- 1833-1837 — U.S. Representative from New Hampshire
- 1837-1842 — U.S. Senator from New Hampshire
- 1845-1848 — U.S. District Attorney for New Hampshire
- 1852 — Elected to the presidency

EVENTS DURING PIERCE'S PRESIDENCY

- 1853 — The Gadsden Purchase is signed, adding portions of southern Arizona and New Mexico and completing the present border of the continental United States.
The first manned heavier-than-air flying machine travels 500 yards.
- 1854 — Commodore Perry negotiates the first U.S.-Japan treaty.
The Kansas-Nebraska Act is passed, repealing the Missouri Compromise of 1820.
The first fractional distillation of crude oil is accomplished by Benjamin Sullivan.
- 1855 — Sault Ste. Marie Canal opens, linking Lake Superior with Lake Huron.
The first U.S. kindergarten opens in Watertown, Wisconsin.
Familiar Quotations is published for the first time by John Bartlett.
- 1856 — The Bessemer converter for producing steel is patented.
Neanderthal man fossils are discovered in Germany.
The Western Union Company is chartered.

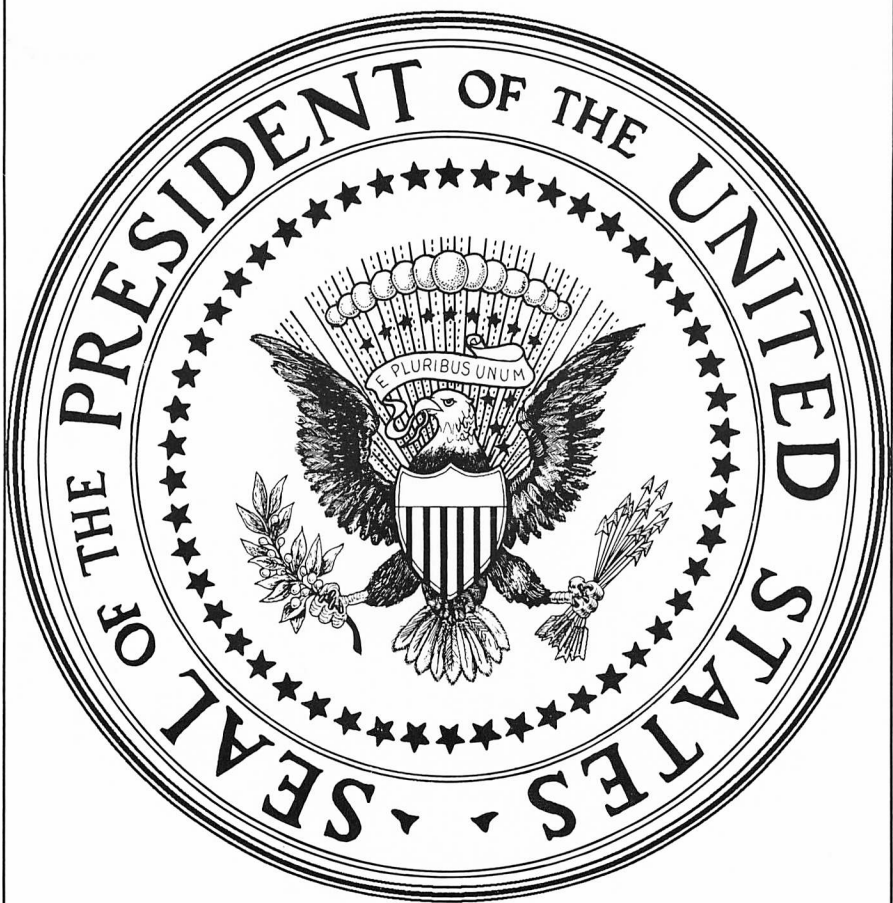
"It is with me an earnest and vital belief that as the Union has been the source, under Providence, of our prosperity to this time, so it is the surest pledge of a continuance of the blessings we have enjoyed and which we are sacredly bound to transmit undiminished to our children."

1853



15





15. JAMES BUCHANAN

"The Bachelor President"

1857—1861

Democrat

Birthdate: April 23, 1791

Birthplace: Cove Gap, Pa.

Education: Dickinson College, 1809

Occupation: Lawyer

Home State: Pennsylvania

Married: Never

Children: None

Died: June 1, 1868

Place of Death: Lancaster, Pa.

Place of Burial: Lancaster, Pa.

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Eighteenth

Vice-President: John Cabell Breckinridge

EVENTS IN BUCHANAN'S LIFE

1812 — Admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar

1815-1816 — Member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives

1821-1831 — U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania

1832-1833 — Minister to Russia

1834-1845 — U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania

1845-1849 — Secretary of State under Polk

1853-1856 — Minister to Great Britain

1856 — Elected to the presidency

EVENTS DURING BUCHANAN'S PRESIDENCY

1857 — The Dred Scott decision by the Supreme Court reinforces the institution of slavery.

1858 — Minnesota is admitted to the Union as the 32nd state.

The first transatlantic message is sent between Buchanan and Queen Victoria of Great Britain.

1859 — Petroleum production begins in the U.S. at Titusville, Pa.

Oregon is admitted to the Union as the 33rd state.

John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry, Va., is crushed, resulting in increased anti-slavery sentiment.

Charles Dickens publishes *A Tale of Two Cities*.

Charles Darwin publishes *On the Origin of Species by Natural Selection*, describing the evolutionary process.

1860 — South Carolina adopts an Ordinance of Secession.

The Pony Express begins operation from Missouri to California.

The pasteurization of milk is developed by Louis Pasteur.

The Southern Confederacy of seven states is formed at Montgomery, Ala.

Attempts to reinforce Fort Sumter (S.C.) by the North are defeated by the South.

1861 — Kansas is admitted to the Union as the 34th state.

"I believe (slavery) 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. But, while I entertain these opinions, I know it is an evil at present without a remedy...one of those moral evils, from which it is impossible for us to escape, without the introduction of evils infinitely greater."

1826

