

**THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENTIAL
CANDIDATE; OR
THE LIFE OF WILLIAM
HENRY HARRISON OF OHIO**

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The People's Presidential Candidate; Or the Life of William Henry Harrison of Ohio by Richard Hildreth

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RICHARD HILDRETH

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Margaret B. ...

THE PEOPLE'S
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ;
OR
THE LIFE
OF
WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON,
OF
OHIO.

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ADVERTISEMENT

THE materials for the following "Life" have been chiefly derived from a work published in Cincinnati in 1824, entitled "A historical narrative of the civil and military services of Major General William H. Harrison, and a vindication of his character and conduct as a statesman, a citizen, and a soldier; with a detail of his negotiations and wars with the Indians until the final overthrow of the celebrated chief Tecumthe, and his brother the Prophet. The whole written and compiled from original and authentic documents furnished by many of the most re-

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spectable characters in the United States ; by Moses Dawson." This is a thick octavo of nearly five hundred closely printed pages, containing many state papers, letters, and public documents, and furnishing a great mass of facts, but very ill arranged, and running frequently into a tedious and confused minuteness. This book has long since been out of print, and to the general reader it could never have been a very inviting performance.

Considerable use has also been made of a "Memoir of the public services of William Henry Harrison, of Ohio, by James Hall ;" published at Philadelphia in 1836. That work seems to have been hastily compiled ; its arrangement is very defective ; the main narrative is too much overlaid by unimportant details, and it fails to leave any clear and distinct impression on the reader's mind. The reflections with which it is interspersed, are too trite and declamatory, and the rules of good taste are not always observed.

The present narrative presents a brief and comprehensive, and it is hoped a clear and correct view of the wars and negotiations on our Northwestern frontier, from the adoption of the federal constitution till the close of the last war, by which event the power of the Indian tribes in that region was so broken as to leave them no longer a formidable enemy. This is a part of our history full of interest, though little known. These events are essentially connected with, and form indeed a principal part of the life of General Harrison.

Brought forward as that gentleman has been, as a prominent candidate for the presidential chair, by supporters not less respectable for their numbers than entitled to attention for their patriotism, sound judgment, and knowledge of popular sentiment, some curiosity must naturally be felt to know the history of his political services. His retirement from

public life for several years previous to his nomination as a presidential candidate, has thrown that history into the back ground,—and it is only by some such memoir as the present, that it can be brought forward again to the public recollection.

In the compilation of this little work, the author has not aimed at a panegyric, but simply at a clear and candid statement of facts ; a statement however, it may be observed, which seems to prove that General Harrison possesses feelings, principles, and traits of character such as qualify him in a peculiar manner to fill with honor to himself and advantage to the country, the high station for which he has been nominated.

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