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A UNITED PEOPLE

One flag, one land, one heart, one hand,
One nation, evermore.

Oliver Wendell Holmes.

THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF JAMES A. GARFIELD AND CHESTER A. ARTHUR (1881-85)

268. The Presidential Election of 1880.—In the presidential election of 1880 the Republicans nominated James A. Garfield of Ohio for President and Chester A. Arthur of New York for Vice-President. The Democrats nominated Winfield Scott Hancock. The Greenback-Labor party nominated James B. Weaver of Iowa. The Prohibition party nominated Neal Dow of Maine.



James A. Garfield.

Born in Ohio, in 1831; served in the Union army during the Civil War, becoming major-general; member of Congress and of the Senate; became twentieth President in 1881; was shot on July 2, 1881, and died September 19 following.

In the campaign of 1880 there was no bitterness displayed between the North and the South and no agitation of sectional questions. For the first time in a generation Americans talked and acted as if they were really a united people. Garfield received the majority of the electoral votes, although Hancock polled a popular vote almost as large as that of his successful rival.

269. The Death of Garfield; President Arthur.—President Garfield had hardly entered upon his duties as President when he was made the victim of an assassin's bullet. On July 2, 1881, while in the railroad station at Washington, he was shot in the back by a disappointed office-seeker. The wounded President made a