

To Cave Johnson, April 24, 1833

I am surprised to learn from your letter of the 17th Inst. that your fidelity to the administration is doubted. In answer to your inquiry I have to state, that I have always regarded you as a friend of the administration, and am well satisfied that you are so regarded by the members of the House generally.

From James Walker, Feb. 14th 1834

I send you a letter just received from George Moore which advises of Hardy's running away &c. I am at a loss to know how to remedy the difficulties at your plantation, and to know whether fault is in the negroes or overseer.

From George W. Haywood, 16th Feb 1834

You will find enclosed a petition to the Post Office department from a great number of your constituents praying removal of the post office from the late residence of Saml. Bigham Esq to that of Maj William Davis.

From James McKisick, 7th March 1834

Saturday morning 8th. The Election is over, Kincaid & Webster are elected; Kincaid got an overwhelming majority over all the other candidates. This is not very strange in Bedford County, but in any other part of the civilised world it would be passing strange.

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To James L. Edwards, July 31st 1834

Will you inform me what decision has been made in the case of *Samuel Hillis* (alias *Hillhouse*) an applicant for a pension under the act of 1832? His amended declaration was forwarded to your office sometime during the last fall or winter.

From Archibald Yell, Sept the 16th 1834

I see with regret that my old frnd & College mate *Hall* Republican has come out with a long defence of Col Bell in the nature of an individual attack on you for which last Week myself & three others *discontinued* our *paper* & I told him my reason for it. 1st, that he that was not for us on the Bank question was against us; 2nd that I viewed that defence as intended to injure you & support Mr Bell.

From Ephraim Beanland, Oct 10, 1834

We ar all well but Loosy and Any they aint able to go to picken out cotton yet and it has rained all moste every day since you left hear. . . . I cant get out my crop in time if I donte get more help for when I run my gin I have not got but 7 hands.

To James Walker, Decr. 25th. 1834

Since the meeting the other evening Johnson has written a letter to the delegation stating in substance that if Judge White is taken up by the friends of the administration he will support him, but if he is to be run by the opposition nationals and nullifiers, aided by a small fraction of the Jackson party, that his co-operation as one of that fraction is not to be expected; that he intends not to separate from the party but to act with it.

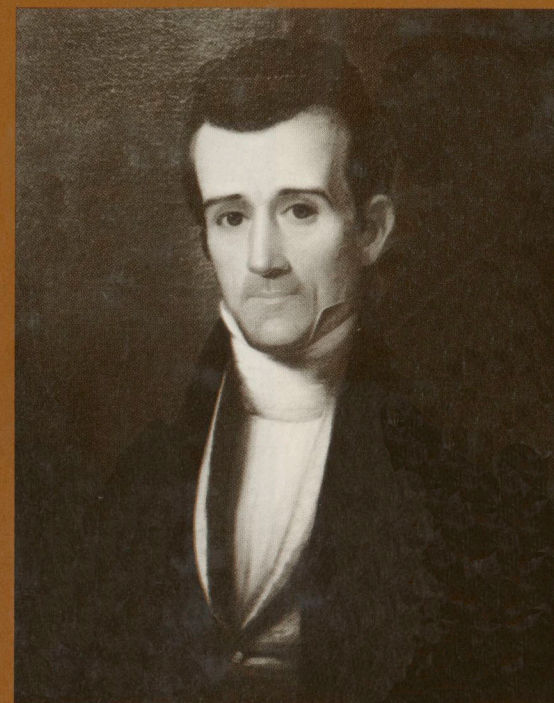
WEAVER

BERGERON

Correspondence
of
JAMES K.
POLK

Volume II
1833-1834

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HERBERT WEAVER

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James K. Polk, largely neglected by historians until recently, when a poll of historians ranked him “near great,” served seven terms in Congress before his election as eleventh President of the United States. During his term the Oregon question was settled, the war with Mexico won, and the California territory annexed.

During the years covered by this volume, 1833 and 1834, Polk became a member, then chairman, of the influential House Ways and Means Committee. As Jackson’s floor leader he instigated an investigation of the Bank of the United States and led the House fight to support Jackson in his decision not to recharter the Bank and to remove federal funds from the Bank.

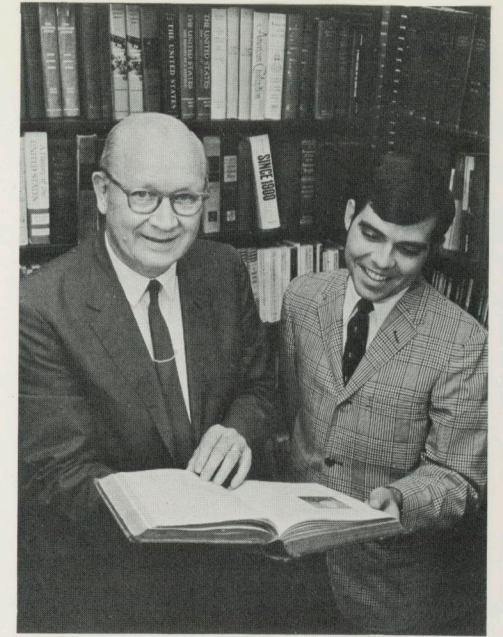
Correspondence in this volume reveals the wish of many of Polk’s supporters to have him serve as a delegate to the Tennessee Constitutional Convention of 1834 and to run for Governor of Tennessee. Additional correspondence reveals the growing dissatisfaction among Jackson supporters with the candidacy of Martin Van Buren and Polk’s attempts to keep the party unified.

Many of the letters, like those in the first volume, reveal Polk’s relations with his large family, his property managers, and his constituents. Throughout the volume emerges a consistent picture of Polk’s conscientiousness, his loyalty to Jackson, and his tirelessness in serving his constituents.

CORRESPONDENCE OF JAMES K. POLK, expected to appear in several volumes, will include all known significant letters to and from Polk. The largest single collection of such letters is in the Library of Congress, although letters have been gathered from at least fifty sources, including the Tennessee State Library and the National Archives. The Polk project is sponsored jointly by Vanderbilt University, the Tennessee Historical Commission, and the National Historical Publications Commission.

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In addition to serving as associate editor of the first volume of *CORRESPONDENCE OF JAMES K. POLK*, Bergeron has written articles for the *Journal of Southern History*, the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, the *North Carolina Historical Review*, the *East Tennessee Historical Society’s Publications*, *Prologue: The Journal of the National Archives*, and *The American Archivist*.