

James K. Polk – Democrat 1844-1848

North Carolina, Mexican War/ Pro west / solved Oregon with negotiation but war with Mexico

Zachary Taylor – Whig but independent/ Free Soilers ruined the Democrats- 1848-50

Virginia/ Never in politics career military/ Mexican War service hero/ owned slaves but thought it should not expand into western territories/ anti internal improvements and high tariffs/ should not interfere with congress/ cabinet and collective agreement not a strong president like Jackson/ nationalist against secession/ hated Polk for Mexican War decision during fighting/ would have signed the Wilmot Proviso/ died in the summer of 1850 of stomach problems

Millard Fillmore – Whig 1850-52 last Whig President / ran against Buchanan under Know Nothing Party and lost

New York / Vice President of Taylor / Supported and signed the Compromise of 1850 lost Whig support because of the Fugitive Slave Act in the compromise/ California a state and Utah and New Mexico became territories/ Japanese trade opened/ mostly about the compromise

Franklin Pierce – Democrat – 1852-56

Fought in Mexican War/ Pro slavery northern / Ostend Manifesto – issue -Spain should sell us Cuba , okay with him/ right to own slaves is constitutional/ close race with Winfield Scott/ signed Kansas Nebraska Act/ lost next election due to Kansas

James Buchanan – Democrat - 1856-1860

Pennsylvania / pro slavery/ states' rights/ expansionist/ wanted to accept the Kansas slave constitution/ said that the federal govt. could not stop states from seceding