

JOHN W. BOOKWALTER

No student of political affairs; can question the democracy of Hon. W. Bookwalter of Ohio. The Commoner has no separate occasions given skecthes of men well worthy of being mentioned in connection with theDemocratic nomination for president, and this week it gives a sketch of Mr. Bookwalter, prepared by a friend and admirer :

"It fellows that a man who is a care. ful, prudent, honorable and aggressive busicess man makes a good puble official. If he is self-made, then he is of necessity broad-minded, for no man can pass through the various stages, leading from poverty to riches, without having his mental vision broadened, his sympathies quickened and his intellect enlarged.

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"Hon. John W. Bookwalter, of Ohio, ought to make an ideal candidate for the Democratic nomination for the presidency: for he is self-made and is one of the foremost business men of the country. He is in touch with the east and extensive interests bind him closely to the west. He farms in the trans-Missouri region on a large scale and manufactures in the east. He has business interests extending from Delaware, where he has a steel casting plant, down through Ohio, where he makes water wheels and has large real estate interests, on out to the foot bills of the Rocky Mountains, which mark the bounds of his Nebraska farms, with real estate interests in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska.

"Reared on an unpromising farm in a sparsely settled region on the banks of Wabash in Indiana, it was not until he was nearly 25 years of age that Mr. Bookwalter stepped out into the broad world. Like Lincoln, his early opportunities were very meagre and he earned his bread by the sweat of his brow, beginning early and working late to make the stump-covered soil of the clearing yield a bare living. At an early age he developed an unquenchable thirst for knowledge that later cropped out in the fact that he is an authority on political economy, science, mechanical engineering, sociology and the classics. Under the most adverse circumstances he was indefatigable as a student at home and when he did leave his birthplace he was well equipped, not only with knowledge, but with pluck, a fine sense of honor and old-fashioned Integrity to begin his battle 'out in the world.'

"Although his efforts have been cro * ned with the most abundant success, none of it was ever gained by dishonorable means or through speculation which he has eschewed with a determination that has exemplified the strong will of the man. In all of his years as one of the leading maufacturers of the country, not one complaint has come against him from the ranks of labor. The men in his shops are his closest friends. They are well paid, fairly and generously treated and are satisfied.

"There is another reason why John W. Bookwalter is well fitted for the presidential nomination. No man in America has traveled more extensively abroad

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