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THOMAS JEFFERSON.

(Continued From Second Page.)

party, and with the compliments and plaudits of his countrymen. Even his enemies were forced to admit that his correspondence with Genet had exhibited the highest order of ability, and had shown him to be both patriot and statesman.

In 1793 he was called from Monticello to become Vice-President. Mr. Adams having received in the Electoral College seventy-one votes, and Mr. Jefferson sixty-eight, which resulted, as the Constitution then provided, in making the former President and the latter Vice-President of the United States.

To the duties of this office he brought the same industry and learning as to every other position.

When a young lawyer, beginning his public career as a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, he had adopted the practice of noting down in a small leather-bound volume rules and precedents in parliamentary law, and upon this as a basis he now prepared his "Manual of Parliamentary Practice," the highest authority in legislative proceedings known to the civilized world.

PRESIDENT.

In the meantime the Federalists and Republicans were marshaling their forces for the Presidential contest of 1800. The conservative and mediatory influence of Washington had been withdrawn, and party spirit raged untrammelled.

The press was in the hands of the Federalists, and Jefferson the mark at which all their arrows were aimed. He was pictured as an atheist, libertine, a monster in human form. One of the favorite charges against him was that he was an ally of Napoleon Bonaparte, the Corsican tyrant. The political preacher had already appeared in the Presidential canvass, and although not so alliterative as in modern times, was equally as sensational.

The great preacher then in New York was Dr. John Mason, and he was shocked beyond measure to find from the "Notes on Virginia" that Jefferson had doubts as to there having been a universal deluge. Some days before the election Dr. Mason published a pamphlet entitled, "The Voice of Warning to Christians on the Ensuing Election," in which he exclaimed: "Christian! It is thus that a man whom you are expected to elevate to the chief magistracy insults yourself and your Bible."

We can imagine what sort of partisan this reverend politician must have been when we learn that in one of his sermons he paused and with uplifted hands and eyes burst into prayer:

"Send us, if Thou wilt, murrain upon our cattle, a famine upon our land, cleanness of teeth in our borders; send us pestilence to waste our cities; send us, if it please Thee, the sword to bathe itself in the blood of our sons, but spare us, Lord God Most Merciful, spare us that curse—most dreadful of all curses—an alliance with Napoleon Bonaparte."

As he uttered these words the blood gushed from his nostrils, but putting

his handkerchief to his face he then waved it aloft as if a bloody banner in the coming contest.

Through all this scandal and vituperation, temporal and ecclesiastical, the people, as they always do, discerned the true issue, and the Republicans were successful. Jefferson and Burr each received seventy-three votes in the Electoral College to sixty-five for Adams, sixty-four for Pinckney, and one for Jay; and after some weeks of great excitement the House of Representatives ratified the will of the people by making Jefferson President and Burr Vice-President. The alien and sedition laws had done their work, and the first Republican administration assumed control of the Government.

The new President rode to the Capitol on horseback, hitched his steed to the pailings, and quietly took the oath of office. There was no procession, no inauguration, no show and parade. Right or wrong, this was Jefferson's idea of a Republic, and the commencement of a Republican administration.

During the administrations of Washington and Adams the absurd custom of Congress being opened by the President with a personal address had been adopted in imitation of the English system; but Jefferson quietly transmitted his message in writing, and such has been the custom ever since.

He also refused to hold weekly levees, where a mob of sweating and uncomfortable people, in tawdry finery, torture each other and the President until life becomes a burden, and the first travesty on common sense has since returned to plague the Chief Executive and disgust the sensible public.

Jefferson sought to simplify the Government and relieve it from the display and extravagance by which monarchy aimed to dazzle the people and conceal the outrages inflicted upon them. The trinity of his political faith was a strict construction of the Constitution, economy in expenditures, and honest men in office.

His inaugural on March the 4th, 1801, should be treasured with Washington's Farewell Address.

"Equal and exact justice to men of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none; the support of the State Governments in all their rights, as the most competent administration for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies; the preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor as the sheet anchor of our peace at home, and safety abroad; a jealous care of the election by the people—a mild and safe corrective of abuses, which are lopped by the sword of revolution, when peaceable remedies are unprovided; absolute acquiescence in the decision of the majority, the vital principle of Republics from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate source of despotism; a well disciplined militia, our best reliance in peace and for the first moments of war, till regulars may relieve them; the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; economy in the public expense that labor may be lightly burdened; the honest payment of our debts and sacred preservation of

the public faith; encouragement of agriculture, and of commerce as its handmaid; the diffusing information and the arraignment of all abuses at the bar of public reason; freedom of religion; freedom of the press; freedom of persons under the protection of the habeas corpus, and trial by juries impartially selected."

The first important act of Mr. Jefferson's administration was to dispatch three frigates and one sloop of our small navy to the Mediterranean, for the purpose of overawing the Algerine pirates and terminating their daring attacks upon American commerce.

When Minister to France, he had been annoyed and irritated by the fact that the United States and other nations were compelled to pay tribute to these buccanniers. One bill sent to Mr. Jefferson for the ransom of an American crew was as follows:

For three captains, \$6,000 each, \$18,000; for two mates, \$4,000 each, \$8,000; for two passengers, \$4,000 each, \$8,000; for fourteen seamen, \$1,400 each, \$19,600; total, \$55,600.

Jefferson was determined that this national disgrace should be obliterated, and history shows how well and thoroughly the gallant Decatur carried out the instructions of his chief.

The most splendid achievement of Jefferson's administration, however, was the acquisition by purchase from Napoleon of the Louisiana Territory, which extended our limits from ocean to ocean and gave us the mouth of the Mississippi.

When the treaty was signed at Paris, Mr. Livingston, one of the Commissioners, said:

"We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives. The treaty which we have just signed has not been obtained by art nor dictated by force. It will change vast solitudes into flourishing districts, and from this day the United States take their place among the powers of the first rank. . . . The instruments which we have just signed will cause no tears to be shed. They prepare ages of happiness for innumerable generations of human creatures. . . . The Mississippi and Missouri will see them succeed one another and multiply. Truly worthy of the regard and care of Providence, in the bosom of equality, under just laws, freed from the errors of superstition and bad government."

"If to the dead it be permitted to care for the things of this world," with what satisfaction must the spirit of Jefferson to-day look down upon this vast domain acquired by his patriotic foresight; a land of plenty, filled with happy homes, and temples devoted to education, science and art, such as this in which we now assemble!

After acquiring Louisiana, including the vast region stretching to the Pacific, Mr. Jefferson's next object was to ascertain the nature and resources of these possessions, and for this purpose the expedition of Lewis and Clark left St. Louis in 1805, came up the Missouri, and for two years, four months and ten days was lost to civilization, and exposed to danger and hardships, the recital of which equals the stories of romance. . . . Not many months after the acquisition of Louisiana, intelligence reached the President of the treasonable design of Aaron Burr to seize upon the mouth of the Mississippi, invade

Mexico, and establish a Southwestern empire. After the death of Hamilton, Burr had served out his term as Vice-President, presiding at the impeachment trial of Judge Chase, and then finding his public career ended, his restless ambition had conceived the scheme which ruined Blennerhassett, and made himself an outcast and wanderer.

Party rancor attempted at the time to make Burr a martyr and Jefferson a tyrant, but impartial history has long since entered the judgment that the President was right, and that Burr was guilty of the designs attributed to him.

The latter part of Jefferson's second term was clouded with the prospect of war with England, and with the distress caused by the Embargo, which he enforced to the end of his administration, in the hope of averting an expensive and ruinous conflict of arms.

In 1809, with the country four times greater in resources and territory than in 1800, his second term as President closed, and after forty-four years public service he transferred the Government to his friend, James Madison, and went back to Monticello, and to the labor of love, which had been amongst the dreams of his early ambition. His whole energies were now devoted to establishing the University of Virginia, upon a system singularly illustrative of that equality and liberty which formed the leading characteristic of Jefferson's life and opinions. The University differs from other American colleges in these particulars: There is no president, and all the professors are of equal rank except that one of them is elected chairman of the faculty. The University is simply a group of schools, and the student chooses himself the studies he elects to pursue. Unlike other institutions, there is no rule requiring a student to attend religious exercises, but his conduct in this regard is governed entirely by his own sense of right.

The ruling idea in every detail is an absence of coercion, and an appeal to manhood and conscience. . . . Jefferson lived seventeen years after the close of his public career, and his last hours were unobscured by the pressure of debts which he was unable to satisfy. His splendid library, a portion of it left him by George Wythe, was sold to the United States, and he was finally compelled to ask the Legislature of Virginia to authorize him to dispose of his lands by lottery, in order to meet the harassing liabilities upon him.

Although an exact man, Jefferson practiced the hospitality which prevailed in Virginia everywhere at that time, and he had never learned the modern methods by which a public officer can in a few years become a millionaire upon a small salary. When he left Washington City he was forced to borrow ten thousand dollars to pay debts contracted for household expenses, and whilst we may deprecate the style of living which necessitated such outlay, we must admire the integrity that procured the money to meet the debt by a mortgage upon Monticello, rather than by a raid upon the public treasury.

On July the 4th, 1826, as the accentuating canon and the glad acclaim of a free people saluted the birthday

of American Independence, Jefferson's life ended peacefully and serenely at Monticello. On the same day at his home in Massachusetts, John Adams passed away.

No longer rivals nor political opponents, they met together the last enemy of all our race.

Gentlemen of the Jefferson Club, you have taken the name and are pledged to the principles of him who established the Democratic party. No responsibility can be greater, for the defeat of these principles and the destruction of the organization based upon them, means the end of free institutions upon this continent.

We hear now strange doctrines from some who claim to be Democrats. We are told that if the party fails to declare in its National Platform for affirmative action on a single issue, its members should desert the flag and "follow after strange gods."

No Democrat, who honestly reveres the doctrines and teachings of Jefferson, can be a Republican or Populist.

The Republican party of today is the direct political descendant of the old Federalists, and holds to the doctrine of Hamilton, that this is a Government of unlimited powers, and that Congress can do anything it deems necessary for the general welfare.

The Populists believe that the Government is a great eleemosynary institution, and that it should support the people, instead of the people supporting the Government.

The Democratic party holds that there should be no partnership between the Government and any individual or class, but that all the benefits and burdens of the Government should be equally and justly distributed, every citizen being protected in life, liberty and property, and made the architect of his own fortune.

It holds that all property should be taxed in proportion to the protection received from the Government; and it does not believe in the system under which Mr. Vanderbilt pays no more upon his hundreds of millions to support the National Government, than does the poorest citizen who must in war risk life and limb to protect these millions.

The Democratic party is national, not sectional, and cannot exist on one issue. It is consistent with the whole Union and with the autonomy of our Government.

You may believe in the single gold standard and I in the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, but if we are Jeffersonian Democrats, there is no other political home for us than the old party which has existed for a hundred years in peace and war, sunshine and shadow, in every Township, County and State of the entire Union.

To abandon this party now because of difference on one question in a National Convention is to desert the flag in the face of an enemy because a council of war has blundered in directing the campaign.

The Democratic party is the only obstacle to the supremacy of the Federalist ideas of Hamilton, and the man who deserts its flag gives aid and comfort to those who malign the character and teachings of Jefferson.

No greater calamity could come to this country or the world than the disruption of the great organization which was founded by the author of the Declaration of American Independence.

Upon the canvass of the past, Washington and Jefferson stand forth the central figures in our struggle for Independence. The character of the former was so rounded and justly proportioned, that so long as our country lives, or a single community of Americans can be found, Washington will be "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

To Washington we are more indebted than to any one man for national existence, but what availed the heroism of Bunker Hill, the sufferings of Valley Forge, or the triumph of Yorktown, if the Government they established had been but an imitation of the monarchy from which we had separated?

To Jefferson we owe eternal gratitude for his sublime confidence in popular government, and his unflinching courage in defending at all time and in all places, the great truth, that "All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The love of liberty is found not in palaces, but with the poor and oppressed. It flutters in the heart of the caged bird, and sighs with the worn and wasted prisoner in his dungeon. It has gone with martyrs to the stake, and kissed their burning lips as the tortured spirit winged its flight to God!

In the temple of this diety Jefferson was high priest!

For myself, I worship no mortal man living or dead; but if I could kneel at such a shrine, it would be with uncovered head and loving heart at the grave of Thomas Jefferson.

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