

prompted him to a course of action quite in harmony with the highest political philosophy."

Death came to this begrizzled warrior at his home, the Hermitage, in 1845. It can truly be said that his people, the plain people, could not find words adequate to express their grief, but they mourned him only as England mourned in Tennyson's lament:

"Oh good gray head, that all men knew;
Oh, iron nerve, to true occasion true;
Oh, fallen at length, that tower of strength,
That stood four-square to every wind that blew."

Before he "crossed the bar" a most interesting occurrence took place with General Sam Houston as one of the leading figures. Though facing death "Old Hickory" was resolved that Texas would ratify the resolution of annexation passed by the Congress, and he waited anxiously for word from the messengers he sent to the Lone Star President. Finally, on May 26th, he was elated to receive Houston's favorable decision. Furthermore, he was informed that "Old Sam" was on the way to report in person to his former military chief. At dusk on June 8th, some hours after Andrew Jackson had finally entered into the great beyond, a coach rolled madly into the Hermitage grounds and the towering figure of Sam Houston emerged, accompanied by a very small boy. When led into the presence of the earthly remains of his one-time chief, Houston broke down and sobbed and calling his son to his side he said: "My son, try to remember always that you have looked on the face of Andrew Jackson."

But in the light of all this, what lesson does it bring to us? What significance has it in the light of present day problems or of future emergencies? The meaning of it and the causes for which Jackson and his co-founder Jefferson lived and fought and died would be wasted if it did not command us to carry on—now! Their Party, your Party, the Democratic Party, is the political organization which has lasted throughout the history of the Country. It has survived a Civil War, which temporarily disfranchised a majority of its members. It has lived through the lean years of defeat and, what is more remarkable, through long stretches of practically unopposed success. Doubtless therein lies the real reason for its long life. Primarily, it is because the Party was built upon a rock—the never shifting principle that government belongs to the people. And of no less importance, the Party has continued to exist because of its response to progressive and liberal ideas.

Let us, on this day, re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals of Democracy as symbolized by Jackson, by Jefferson and by Roosevelt. In recurring instances, fraught with difficult conditions, the Democratic Party has striven to bring about betterment for the great mass of people and to chart a course in keeping with the time and conditions, for our national life and activities. Also the underlying philosophy has been the same although the means necessarily was different. But by adhering in the future to this same philosophy, by manifesting the courage of Jackson in fighting to retain the gains already won, we will so strengthen our life that the dangers which come from further difficulties will be mastered. The dangers which come from the importation of various "isms" will be dissipated through the application of this doctrine of a system of government based upon the individual's inalienable rights. The dangers