

tionable.* His experience in state matters will now be put to the test; and, as he sometimes observes concerning others, "The tree will be known by its fruit." As for his military habits about which an outcry has been made, it seems unreasonable to put the mark of disqualification upon a civilian, merely because in time of danger, and at the call of his country, he has put on a martial dress and been successful at the head of a regiment or in the command of an army. George Washington's habits, acquired in the camp and field of battle, did not unfit him for exercising civil rule, and why should soldiership and its perils have been a bar to the election of Andrew Jackson to the presidency?

The most authentic account of the life of Jackson, and to which we are greatly indebted, was published in Philadelphia, in 1824, by Bradford. The first four chapters were written by the late Major Reid, who was an eye witness to

* The hatred born by Jackson to tyranny and arbitrary power, may be clearly perceived in many of his actions; we give his reasons for refusing to go as minister to Mexico, to which situation he had been nominated by Colonel Monroe without his knowledge, as one instance out of many. "On mature reflection" observes Jackson, in a letter to a friend, afterwards published in the Mobile newspapers, "I have come to the" "conclusion: That, in the present revolutionary state of Mexico, the appearance of an American minister at that court, with credentials to *the tyrant Iturbide*, would carry with it, to the people of that country, the appearance that the U. States approved his course: would thereby strengthen the tyrant—and enable him the more firmly to rivet the chains of despotism on the Mexican people, who of right ought to be free. The future peace and security of the United States, materially depend upon the Mexicans establishing a government upon the representative system. These views induced me to decline the acceptance, determined never to permit pecuniary or other considerations, to entice me into a measure, where the cause of suffering humanity could not be relieved, and where there was no prospect of my rendering any service to my country."