

gress to procure a vote censuring the conduct of General Jackson, whose fast increasing popularity had, in all probability, already excited the envy of politicians. Mr. Clay and Mr. Calhoun in particular favored this movement; but the President himself, and Mr. Adams, the Secretary of State, who had charge of the Spanish negotiation, warmly espoused the cause of the American commander." This fear of a rising popularity was not without reason. There were proposals to bring General Jackson forward for the presidency in 1816, and in 1820; to which he would not listen, on account of his friendship to Mr. Monroe. A refusal to enter the canvass at those periods, and for that reason, naturally threw him into it in 1824, when he would come into competition with those two gentlemen. Their opposition to him, therefore, dates back to the first term of Mr. Monroe's administration; that of Mr. Clay openly and responsibly; that of Mr. Calhoun secretly and deceptively, as shown in the "Exposition." They were both of the same political party school with General

Jackson; and it was probably his rising to the head of that party which threw them both out of it. Mr. Webster's opposition arose from his political relations, as belonging to the opposite school; and was always more moderate, and better guarded by decorum. He even appeared, sometimes, as the justifier and supporter of President Jackson's measures; as in the well-known instance of South Carolina nullification. Mr. Clay's efforts were limited to the overthrow of President Jackson; Mr. Calhoun's extended to the overthrow of the Union, and to the establishment of a southern confederacy of the slave States. The subsequent volume will have to pursue this subject.

This chapter ends the view of the administration of President Jackson, promised to him in his lifetime, constituting an entire work in itself, and covering one of the most eventful periods of American history—as trying to the virtue and intelligence of the American people as was the war of the revolution to their courage and patriotism.

RETIRING AND

THE second and last of President Jackson's presidency expired in 1837. The next day, with his successor, I was invited to the inauguration of the new President, as one of the citizens distinguished from the left hand of the President. The atmosphere was beautiful—clear and tranquil. On foot, in the steps, orderly wedged together, the President presented to the eastern windows the human faces. riveted to their place until the ceremony. It was the stillness and affection; and there was to whom this mute answer rendered. For once, the setting sun. The and retiring to the shade evident that the great absorbing object of this moment he began to descend the portico to take his which was to bear him feeling of the dense manifestations and cheers bursting filling the air—such as no man in power reception, gratitude, and admiration for the last time the acclaim of posterity bosoms of contemporaries pation of futurity—un-