There are few, if any, instances of a friendship so perfect, so unselfish, as that which united these two great men. In a letter to a friend Mr. Madison gives the following account of the commencement and growth of this friendship.

"I was a stranger to Mr. Jefferson till the year 1796, when he took his seat in the first legislature under the constitution of Virginia, then nearly framed; being myself at the time myself a member of that body. I, for the first time, a member of any public body. The acquaintanceship then made with him was very slight, the distance between our ages being considerable. I never had any acquaintance with him. During the time whilst he was governor of Virginia the State, I had a seat in the council associated with him. Our acquaintance then became intimate. A friendship was formed, which was for life and which was never interrupted in the slightest degree, for a moment."

No wonder then that Mr. Jefferson looked forward with satisfaction to the close of his political life, with the belief as he confidently did that Mr. Madison would fill the place he vacated, with a man of principles, a man who would carry out those principles, a man who had sincerely thought would best promote his country's good.

On the morning of Mr. Madison's inauguration, he asked Mr. Jefferson to ride in his carriage with him to the Capitol; but this he declined. In answer to a friend who enquired of him why he had not accompanied his friend..."
he smiled and replied, "I wished not to divide with him the honors of the day; it pleased me better to see them all bestowed on him." A large procession of citizens, some in carriages, on horseback, and still larger on foot, followed Mr. Madison along Pennsylvania avenue to the Capitol. Among those on horseback was Mr. Jefferson, escorted by even a servant, distinguished from his fellow citizens. Arrived at the Capitol, he dismounted. "Oh! barbarous shocking," so many, even democrats, as well as the British ministry might have exclaimed, he hitched his own horse to a post; followed the multitude into the Hall of Representatives. Here a seat had been prepared for him near that of the new President. This he declined. When urged by the Committee of arrangement, he replied, "This day I return to the people, 2 my father, seat is among them." Surely this was carrying democracy equality too far, but it was not done, as his opponents said, from a mere desire of popularity; he must have known human nature too well, not to know that the people delight to honor, to see honored their chosen favorites, besides what more popularity could he more desire. His cup was already running over; he could have held no more. No, he wished by his example as well as his often enlightened opinions, to establish the principle of equality in that highest office.

After the ceremony of inauguration, Mr. Madison followed by the same crowd returned to his private house, where he 2 Mr. Madison received the visits of the foreign ministers 2 other fellow citizens.
It was the design, as was generally understood, after paying their respects to the new President, that everyone should go to the President's House and pay a farewell visit to Mr. Jefferson; but to the surprise of everyone, he himself was among the visitors at Mr. Madison's.

A lady who was on terms of intimacy with the ex-President could therefore take that liberty, after telling him that the present company of citizens generally desired to improve this last opportunity of showing their respect by waiting on him, added her hopes that he would be at home to receive them. Imparted her surprise at receiving them from her hostess, he replied, "I believe I shall enjoy my company more than my friends," and that he had sacrificed the opportunity of joining with his fellow citizens in their demonstrations. "This day should be exclusively my friend's," replied he, "I am too happy to be here, to remain at home.

"But indeed Sir, you must receive us, you would not let all these ladies, all your friends, find an empty house, for at any rate we are determined to go, I have that even on this sad occasion, the regret we feel on losing you.

His countenance expressed emotion, he made no reply, but bowed expressively. The lady had no further information to give her who had requested her to enquire whether Mr. Jefferson would receive company, but watching his motions, found that after a little while he had left the salient stepped through the crowd left the room. This she communicated to the company, who with one accord determined to follow him to the President's House. It was evident that he had not expected this attention from his friends, a fellow citizen, as his whole house-
had gone forth to witness the ceremonies of the day. He was alone. But not therefore the less happy, for not one of the eager crowd that followed Mr. Madison, was as anxious as himself, to shew every possible mark of respect to the new President.

How mournful was this last interview! Every one present seemed to feel it so, and each in turn shook hands with him, their countenances expressing more forcibly than their words the regret they felt on losing one who had been the uniform friend of the city and the citizens, with whom had lived on terms of hospitality and kindness.

In the evening there was an Inauguration Ball. Mr. Jefferson was among the first that entered the Ball-room, he came before the President's arrival. "Am I too early," said he to a friend, "you must tell me how to behave? It is more than forty years since I have been to a ball."

In the course of the evening, some one remarked to him, "you look so happy. You satisfied Mr. Jefferson, that you wore the President's epauletts, Mr. Madison looks so serious, not to say sad, that a spectator might imagine that you were the one coming in, and he the one going out of office."

"There's good reason for my look," he said, "his serious looks;" replied Mr. Jefferson, "I have got the burden off my shoulders, while he has now got it on his."

Thus closed Mr. Jefferson's eight years residence in Washington. The constant interest he had taken in the improvement of the city - the great hospitality he had extended to citizens, made his departure the subject of general regret.