

of the steamers of the Potomac to the department, and he was very particular that Uncle Sam should pay for nothing outside the government expenses. Horatio King, Buchanan's postmaster general, still lives at Washington. He must be now well along in his seventies, but he is as spry today as he was when he began life as a printer in Maine with Hannibal Hamlin as his partner. He came to Washington more than half a century ago as a newspaper correspondent, and Amos Kendall, who was then postmaster general, gave him an appointment in the post office department with a salary of a thousand dollars in gold. This was the lowest salary in the department, and he remained in it until he went out as postmaster general, having as such received the highest salary that the department has to offer. Horatio King organized the foreign mail service of the United States, and he was for seven years assistant postmaster general. He tells me that ex-President Buchanan was very courteous with his cabinet ministers, and he allowed them to run their own departments. He says that the cabinet was far more dignified in the days of 1859 and 1860 than it is now, and he does not think that any one but the cabinet ministers should be allowed admission to the councils of the President. During my talk Mr. King referred to Judge Joseph Holt, who was also in Buchanan's cabinet, and who also lives at Washington. He has for years been an invalid, and he is afflicted with eczema to such an extent that he has to remain in a dark room and receives no one but most intimate friends. His mind, however, is clear, and though he suffers terribly he is mentally strong.

JOHN WANAMAKER TELLS HOW HE WAS CHOSEN.

One of the best of President Harrison's cabinet ministers is Postmaster General Wanamaker. Still he was one of the men whose appointment hung fire till the last, and he did not positively know that he would be in the cabinet until after the inauguration. I talked with him yesterday about the circumstances of his appointment. He was sitting at his desk in the post office department and was signing a draft for \$10,600,000, which was to be applied toward some of the postal service expenses of the United States, as I entered. He showed me the draft as a curiosity. When I asked him about President Harrison's cabinet he replied:

"I really do not know much about the subject. I have never heard how the different cabinet ministers were elected and I only know the circumstances of my own appointment. I had never met President Harrison until a month after his election. I think it was along in February that I got a telegram from him that he would like to see me at Indianapolis. I went and we discussed many things concerning the party and the government. The papers had already spoken of me for a cabinet position, but there was but little talk about the cabinet during my visit to the President-elect, and I left Indianapolis without having been offered a place in the cabinet, nor with any definite intimation that he had any intention of making me such an offer. Upon consideration I am not sure but that we talked over the different cabinet positions and discussed how the government service might be improved in its different branches and it

may be that I was a little more pronounced in my expressions as to the improvement of the mails and of our general postal service. The talk as a whole was for the good of the government service rather than for any special part of it, and it covered a wide range of subjects. After I came back to Philadelphia I prepared to go to Europe, where my family then was. I had my passage engaged and had my letter of credit, when I received a letter advising me not to leave the United States until after the inauguration. I got another message from President Harrison after he had gone to Washington just before his inauguration asking me to come over to see him. I did so and we again had a discussion. There was no certainty about his expression even then, and I went back to Philadelphia without knowing whether I was to be a cabinet minister, or, if so, what department would be offered me. I knew, of course, that my friends had been urging my appointment, as I had been told by some of them that they intended to do so, but I made no move personally in the matter, and it was only a few hours before the inauguration that a telegram, not from the President, urged me to be present at the inauguration. In fact I had no definite information as to it until the 4th of March. I was in Philadelphia and some one told me on the streets that the newspaper bulletins had announced that my name had been sent in as Postmaster General. I did not go to Washington until two days later and then called at the White House, where President Harrison received me and handed me my commission. This was my first official notice of my appointment. These circumstances show, it seems to me, how careful the President was in making his list of official advisors and how cautious he was in expressing his intentions before he had definitely decided upon them."

Such are a few stories of some of the cabinets of the past. In my next letter I will give new matter from equally distinguished men about the cabinets of Presidents Lincoln, Garfield, Arthur, John Tyler and Benjamin Harrison.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

THE FUTURE FARM.

About two weeks ago the News published an article from C. A. Madsen, of Gunnison, Sanpete county, on "The Future Farm." Following is the answer of Prof. Sanborn to Mr. Madsen's questions:

Christian A. Madsen, Esq., Gunnison, Utah.

Dear Sir:—I have read very carefully your questions on some farm problems. You raise great questions, and in one regard the fundamental question of the hour, namely, the rights and opportunities of the masses. I have for a long time been in sympathy with the struggle of the masses for equality of opportunity and equality of conditions. The points named by you cover so great a field that it will be impossible for me to state my position clearly without occupying a great deal of space and time.

Small farms tend to equality of condition and contentment, but large farms, or rather medium sized farms in these days of machinery and concentration have resulted in larger crops

per acre; to wit, England with its great estates against France with its petit farming. In the last few years the number of small farms in this country have decreased and the number of large farms decreased also, bringing the two extremes toward one medium, where the stimulus of ownership and machinery can work to the best advantage.

The possibilities of soil under the highest forms of genius have never yet been touched. We know that 200 bushels of corn and probably 100 bushels of wheat are among the possibilities per acre, and that under the vegetarian regime an acre might afford the sustenance for a family. But just now we are met by the fact that there are more acres of ground in the world than are occupied, even with our present extensive system of farming.

You would also be confronted with the fact that over half the population of the country today are occupied in producing the luxuries and necessities of themselves and the farming class, and that division of labor conduces to the greater wealth and happiness of the whole, although the question is by many thinkers considered a debatable one, whether simple wants and contentment do not bring more happiness than wealth, luxury, inequality and discontent.

It will be our earnest effort to ascertain those laws and possibilities in agriculture that will tend to the intensification of our industry. Great crops we cannot raise on our gravelly soil of the college farm without great expense; yet the relative effect of various processes can be ascertained with some degree of certainty.

I should be most happy to show you our institution and to make your personal acquaintance.

Very truly yours,
J. W. SANBORN.

OUR FARMINGTON LETTER.

Buffalo Island is no doubt the name that the big island west of us and north of Garfield will in the future bear as the small herd of buffalo have proven that the large ranch near Garfield is too insignificant a home for the freedom-loving monarchs of the plains.

William Walker manager of the Island Improvement company, repaired the cattle chute near the Farmington salt works last week and drove the herd as far as the stock yards near Bountiful last Friday; but the fierce looking and fiercely acting monsters convinced him that the preparations for shipment were not substantial enough, so they were corralled at the yards, and the rallying around the boat has been made higher and other improvements made. They are being loaded today. One of them jumped over the fence and several horsemen are having a regular buffalo chase after him.

There are four bulls, four cows and four calves; a number of black Polled Angus cows will be crossed with them to increase the herd and hasten a supply of robes for the market. Other animals will be procured and placed on the island, and the investment will no doubt be a paying one to the enterprising company. It certainly will be an incalculable addition to the attractions of Utah, and the public will be pleased