

"I would like to know why not?" was President Arthur's reply.

"I'll tell you why," said I. "Samuel J. Kirkwood was in President Garfield's cabinet and you accepted his resignation. He is an old man, a distinguished man and a much-loved man in Iowa, and if you now take a young man and an inexperienced man from the same state Kirkwood's friends will think it is a reflection on him and it will be a very bad appointment for you politically." I then asked as to the other men who had been recommended to him and he showed me the list and asked me who I thought was the best of them. I told him that as far as politics were concerned that I considered Judge Gresham of Indiana as a good appointment. 'He comes from a good state,' said I, 'and he is as far as I know popular, honest and able.' It was not long after this that Judge Gresham's name was sent in as postmaster general. I don't know that my words about him brought about his selection. He had many friends and there was a strong movement in his favor."

HOW A POSTMASTER GENERAL WAS MADE.

"Then Secretary Folger died," Gen. Hatton went on, "and Judge Gresham was transferred from the post office to the treasury. I again became acting postmaster general and was again designated to hold the position ten days longer. At the close of these ten days I received a note from Fred Phillips, the private secretary of the President, saying that Gen. Arthur would like to see me at the White House and that he intended to appoint me postmaster general. I went up to the executive mansion and I found President Arthur in Mr. Phillips' room, the one which the President now occupies. He greeted me with the remark, 'Mr. Hatton, in five minutes you will be postmaster general of the United States. I have had your commission made out and it lies here on my table. All I have to do to complete the appointment is to affix my signature.' Just at this moment Secretary Robert Lincoln came in and the President spoke to him of other matters and the three of us chatted together for perhaps ten minutes. During this conversation the President did not say anything about my prospective appointment, and I, of course, did not mention it. As Mr. Lincoln left President Arthur picked up my commission and said: 'You noticed that I did not mention that matter to Lincoln. I am rather superstitious about such matters and I don't like to talk about an appointment until I have made it. I had not yet signed your commission and I thought it best to wait till everything was completed.' He then affixed his name to the commission and after a chat I left the White House, and that day I took the oath of office."

"How did President Arthur treat his cabinet?"

"He gave them authority over all matters pertaining to their offices and he expected them to manage their own departments. About matters of public policy we conferred together, but as to ordinary appointments and rulings our decisions in our own departments were final. He was very courteous in the treatment of his cabinet ministers and I think they had more influence than such officers have had during the last two administrations. He was in some re-

spects much like a boy. If at times he became crusty or petulant he would overflow with kindness to an extent almost of effusiveness as a sort of an apology for his actions."

A TALK ABOUT GARFIELD'S CABINET.

The cabinet of Gen. Garfield went made very slowly. He considered the matter the night he received the news of his election and he made out a slate at that time, but he changed this again and again before the day of his inauguration, and his final choice was a disappointment to many. One of his closest friends at this time was Gen. Swain, whom he afterwards made judge advocate general, and Judge Swain has told me some unwritten history concerning it. Said he:

"I was at Mentor during nearly the whole of the period between Garfield's nomination and his election, and I remember very well the night when we received the news that he was elected. We had decided ourselves beforehand that New York and Indiana would decide the contest. I had arranged with Gen. Chester A. Arthur to telegraph me at midnight of election day as to the result in New York, and we received his dispatch sitting in the little office which stood apart from the house at Mentor. The returns showed that everything had been going our way, and when we got the dispatch saying that New York had undoubtedly gone republican I told Gen. Garfield that he was elected. He tried not to believe it and doubted, saying that we had better wait awhile before we became too confident. As the dispatches came in, however, his election was confirmed beyond doubt, and shortly after midnight we left the office and went upstairs, where he had another little study and where we could be alone. After we got into the study I asked him as to his cabinet. I said: 'You are elected beyond the shadow of a doubt, and I would like to know if you had to decide tonight just who was to go into your cabinet what persons would you choose?' He smiled at the idea and asked me whom I thought he would select, and he finally had me take my seat at my desk, while he sat at his on the other side of the room. He then said: 'We will each write down on a slip of paper the men that we think ought to go into the cabinet. After we are through I will turn over my paper and lay it on my desk and you can turn over yours and we will then change desks and see how near we come together.' 'All right,' said I, and we each began to write. A moment later Gen. Garfield said: 'I have an alternate for one of my offices.' 'I have several,' said I. Well, in the course of a few minutes we were through and we changed seats. Of the names written down there were, perhaps, three or four on both lists which were the same. The others were different. Several of the men whose names were written down are still living and I would not like to give the list. President Garfield's ideas changed from time to time until his inauguration, and he had to make a cabinet which should be strong and which at the same time would, he thought, aid in harmonizing the different elements of his party and at the same time do justice to the whole country. The details of the formation may be published some time, but it seems to me that it is too soon to do so now."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

SAMOAN HOSPITALITY.

PALANTI, Savaii, Samoa,
Jan. 10th, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:

The DESERET NEWS is always a welcome messenger to us in these far off islands in the South Pacific, as by means of it we learn the progress of the work of the Lord in different parts of the world as well as in Zion. It is with especial interest that the writer reads letters which are published therein from time to time from Elders in different parts of the world, who give accounts of their travels and experiences in the missionary field; and as many of your readers have dear ones laboring among the natives in these islands, and again others of your readers are but slightly acquainted with the nature of our labors here I thought a short account of a trip made last week might perhaps prove of some interest to the readers of your widely circulated newspaper.

The writer, in company with Elder C. R. Thompson and two of our school boys left Salealua on the afternoon of January 2nd to visit some of the Saints in Palauli, a village some forty miles distant in the southwest portion of the island of Savaii. We slept that night at a village lying inland some four miles, where lived the grandmother of one of our boys, and who had been baptized the year previously. The old lady - who is nearly blind received us with much joy. She was cared for by her daughter who, with her husband, treated us just as if they were one of us. It being sundown when we reached there we spent the few hours remaining in chatting with the folks, also with the head speaking man of the village who visited us and made "ava" for us, which is the Samoan sign of respect and friendship. He apologized for not having any chickens or pigs to kill for us as he had been spoiled of all his property by the irate chiefs of the village who had been displeased with his conduct in representing them at Mulluu, where King Malietoa Laupepa holds his court; therefore on his return to his village they took summary vengeance on him in the Samoan fashion, by spoiling him of all his moveable property and leaving him to get along as best he could. We spent a pleasant time talking about the Gospel, and then retired to our "tainamu" or sleeping nets to escape from the assiduous attentions of the mosquitoes, and were lulled to sleep by their busy hummings combined with the wierd sounds of an old reed flute, manipulated by old half-blind sister Salome.

The next morning we arose at dawn, and with our two boys to pack our satchels we commenced a walk over a rocky path of some twelve miles, shaded by high brush. Before entering on this path we passed by the oldest Roman Catholic church on Samoa. It was here, a village called Lealatele, that some priests landed many years ago and first established their religion on Samoa; the old building with its moss-grown walls and stained glass windows, is the only building that I have seen on Samoa that bespeaks its age, and the history attached to it makes it all the more interesting. After about four miles' walk through the