

I don't know how many bed rooms there are in this house, but many of them are twenty-five feet square and the ceilings are about fourteen feet high. Nearly every bed room has its own bath room and the rooms are arranged in suites and single, so that you can have just what you want.

Mr. L. Z. Leiter, who is building this mansion, has not been in this country for months, and he is now going up the Nile with his family. His wonderful fortune is a queer instance of American ups and downs. Only a few years ago he was living in a cheap boarding house in Columbus, clerking for a few dollars a week. He began his career in Chicago as a bookkeeper, became eventually a partner in the firm of Field, Leiter & company, and when he retired sold his interest there for something like \$3,000,000. He owns blocks in Chicago, railroad stocks which are worth millions, and he has an income which will enable him to build just how and what he pleases. He is now in his prime and he will probably enjoy his new home for some years to come. It will cost him nearly as much as the President's salary to entertain in it, but his income must be something like \$100,000 a year and he can stand it.

#### JOHN SHERMAN'S MANSION.

Another fine house which will be open next year is Senator Sherman's marble residence facing Franklin Park. I spoke to Senator Sherman about it the other day and he told me he expected to live in it. Said he: "I have a natural bent for building and I suppose I would have been an architect or builder had I not gone into public life. My house is rapidly approaching completion and we expect to be in it next fall." Since then I have visited the house. It is more than fifty feet front and about 100 feet deep. You enter a wide hall in which you could turn a two-horse wagon without touching the walls and on the right of this is the senator's library and on the left are the parlors, and back of them the dining room. All of these rooms are very large and the senator's library is twenty-five feet long. In the back of it there is a great vault with a safe door and time lock on it for the storing away of papers and other valuables. Senator Sherman has some of the most valuable correspondence in existence. He has been in public life for nearly forty years and his papers are full of unwritten history. A great many of them are now stored in the vaults of his library in Mansfield, which are made in the same fireproof way that this vault is, and it is probable that some of these papers may be brought here when this house is completed. The parlors of the house are beautifully finished and they will be frescoed in the finest manner. The woodwork of the whole house is of the choicest of hard wood. Some of the chambers are finished in beautiful bird's-eye maple. The dining room has a paneled oak ceiling and the parlor is finished in white satinwood. The woodwork of the house was brought from Ohio and a great part of the work is being done there. Senator Sherman at one time owned a lumber yard and planing mill and he knows all about different kinds of wood and the selections show excellent taste. I don't know how many rooms there are in the house, but I should judge at least thirty. There are at least half a dozen bath rooms, which are finished in tiles, and the bed rooms

are large and airy. It is a curious thing to note that the senator is building this house on ground which he bought fully a generation ago. When he was in Congress he lived down on C street near the Capitol and when he told Mrs. Sherman he was going to buy a house facing Franklin Square she objected strongly and thought it was away out of the world. Franklin Square was then a kind of ball ground and it was on the edge of the residential part of Washington. Since then the town has crept up around it and two miles beyond it and the ground has become so valuable that you have to carpet it with two dollar bills in order to get possession of it. Senator Sherman first built the house in which he now lives when he was secretary of the treasury and he has now torn down the one into which he moved when he first came here and put this magnificent mansion on its site. K street is one of the most fashionable streets of the capital, and Secretary Carlisle lives in a brick house in the next block to Senator Sherman.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

#### AN OPEN LETTER.

Professor J. W. Sanborn, President of Utah Agricultural College and Experimental Station, Logan City.

Dear Sir—Your esteemed, able and intelligent notes of January 31st, and published in DESERET NEWS Feb. 25, as answer to my "Open Letter" on "The Future Farm," published February 7th, are of a character to promise the benefits of your profound ability and insight, in what you call "the fundamental question of the hour," if even only in an abbreviated form of an open letter correspondence between yourself and your humble servant.

CHRISTIAN A. MADSEN.

#### I.—AGRICULTURE AND THE NATION.

Until of late our farming industry was considered almost unworthy of national patronage. And even today any effort to lift it in general estimation to its legitimate and proper place of national importance, is justly entitled to pessimistic forebodings of defeat.

Nevertheless compared with all other industries combined its national importance stands as 5 to 3. But notwithstanding this overwhelming preponderance, farming as yet in the eyes of those who carry the balance of power in our legislative halls and executive departments, is ignored, slighted, disregarded, crippled, impoverished, depleted, depreciated, exhausted, subjugated, discriminated against, tenanted by foreign capital, now the capitalists main beast of burden, and of prey. And for a wonder, after this condition of things for a generation, the farmer is not disfranchised yet, nor placed under serfdom.

Agriculture in our grand republic (about a century ago it was founded by fifty-six farmers and mechanics) as compared with all other industries combined stands as 5 to 3; but in national patronage, for a generation, it has stood as 1 to 15. Think of it. Let, for instance, two bills come up in Congress, one a \$15,000,000 for commercial objects, and one a \$1,000,000 bill for agricultural advancement; would not the first bill have the best

chance? This diametrical reversal of true proportions is a sickness of our Republic.

In an ungarded hour the barons permitted the farming representative in our national cabinet, and appropriations to agricultural colleges. Its graduates may in time dethrone the barons and cure prevailing sicknesses in the body politic.

#### II.—THE FUTURE FARM.

1.—The most advanced systems in farming are the most remunerative; because advantages are taken of nature's laws, most congenial and favorable to plant life and local conditions.

2.—The more productive an acre of land can be made, in the same proportion the increase of population is made possible. And as a well-to-do and rising population is the source of national prosperity, the enrichment of the soil, to a great extent rules the advancement of commonwealths.

3.—Advanced farming fosters and necessitates intelligent labor, and this germinates kindred advancements in the sciences of life. Hence intelligent labor, so far secures national prosperity and greatness.

4.—Therefore the farming population being about three-eighths of the whole, and by far preponderates in the army of producers; by leading in popular intelligence, it will lead the rest of the producing world on to intelligent and active participation in the rise and glory of our great Republic. "The future farm," therefore, is the anticipated cradle, in part, for the sons and daughters of our commonwealth, which will reign in unparalled prosperity.

In handling this question for publication in the DESERET NEWS, and for the sake of abbreviation, it may be proper to use an aphoristic form of accepted data of long standing in agriculture.

In the first answer to Professor Sanborn's letter of Jan. 31st, I will present the following:

James R. Reeve of Franklin, Ohio, in his report to the Agricultural Department, 1888, page 664, said: "That each cultivated acre will be made to yield the greatest possible money product is the natural end towards which we are now tending."

Why is that object the natural end towards which we are now tending? The answer to this question will to some extent also describe the outlines of "the future farm."

a. History proves that in proportion to advancement in real civilization and increase in population, the farms as they decreased in size became more productive.

b. Intensified farming in the past history of the world was the outcome mainly of the slow, inert and sluggish impediments of empiricism; while intensified progress in farming of today is led by the rational application of science. The state is now fostering and sustaining the exploration on untrodden grounds of undeveloped and unrevealed problems in agriculture.

c. And today our agricultural colleges and experimental stations stand out prominently and illustriously in the vanguard of national progress, in