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40TH CONGRESS,
2d Session

SENATE.

REP. COM
No. 45

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 12, 1868.-Ordered to be printed.

Mr. YATES made the following

REPORT,

[To accompany bill S. No. 11.]

The Committee on Territories, to whom was recommitted Senate bill No. 11, to admit the State of Colorado into the Union; to whom was also referred resolutions of the house of the legislative assembly of the Territory of Colorado, requesting Congress "to admit Colorado as a State into the Union at the earliest practicable day;" also numerous petitions from citizens of Colorado asking for said admission under the pending bill; also petition of colored citizens of Colorado asking admission of the State, and giving assurance that their rights would be secured under its provisions; and also the memorial of citizens of Colorado, now in Washington, praying the admission of the State by the passage of said bill, and urging reasons therefor; having had the same under consideration, respectfully report:

That the withdrawal of active opposition from the Territory, and the evidence presented, leave no doubt that it is the desire of the people of Colorado that the State should be admitted.

That the evidence presented in Executive Document No. 10, 1st session 39th Congress, shows that they have, in good faith, complied with the essential requirements of the act of Congress, approved March 21, 1864, authorizing them to form a State government, and providing for the admission of the State into the Union.

That since the passage of said act the population and resources of the Territory have very largely increased.

That the evidence presented indicates that both the population and wealth of Colorado are now much greater than have been represented by parties opposing the admission of the State, and that they are actually greater than many of the States now in the Union were at the time of their admission; and, in fact, as great as some of them at the present time. To sustain these views reference is made to the following facts :

1. The total vote at the election for members of the legislature and local officers August 12, 1867, was 9,349, being an increase of 2,353 votes over the election for delegate to Congress in 1866.

At the general election in Nebraska, in 1866, the total vote for governor was 8,031. At the election in Nevada, in 1866, the total vote for member of Congress was 9,349. The total vote for governor of Rhode Island, in 1867, was 10,550.

2. While the receipts of internal revenue from Colorado, in 1864, the year in which the enabling act was passed, were \$41, 781 05, in 1867 they were \$151.686 51. From the State of Nebraska they were \$107,975. Up to June 30, 1867, the total receipts from Colorado had been \$578,679 15, more than half as much as from all the other present Territories combined.

3. The last report of the Postmaster General shows that the receipts of the department from Colorado increased from \$16, 781 05 in 1864, to \$32,580 24 in 1867, and that this is more than was received from five of the States :

From Nebraska the receipts were.....	\$30,770 39
From Oregon the receipts were.....	28, 656 23
From Nevada the receipts were.....	22, 550 13
From Arkansas the receipts were.....	32, 302 63
From Florida the receipts were.....	26,97429

The Commissioner of the General Land Office, in his last report, estimates the present population of Colorado at about 100,000. Others estimate it at from 75,000 to 100,000. While these may be over estimates, the facts above cited show that 30,000 or 40,000, as claimed by the opponents of admission, must be too low.

4. Ohio was admitted in 1802. The census of 1800 gave her a population of 45,028. Illinois was admitted in 1818. The census of 1820, two years after, gave her a white population of 53,188. Four years after the admission of Florida the census of 1850 gave her a white population of 47,203. Two years after the admission of Oregon the census of 1860 gave her a population of 52,337 . The census of 1820 gave the white population of Missouri at 55,988. She made application that year, and, was finally admitted in 1821. A number of other States were admitted with evidence of no more population than is indicated in Colorado; but, as in her case, no census was taken to show the exact numbers.

Of course the admission of States with so small a population could only be proper under the prospect of a rapid increase in the immediate future. This, in the case of Colorado, cannot be doubted. Her large area. and extensive and varied natural resources, and their rapid development by the influence of the two branches of the Pacific railroad, are a sufficient guarantee that her progress will be even more rapid in the future than it has been in the past.

It is a matter of the highest importance to the general government to afford her people every facility for the protection of their interests and the development of the resources of the country, as well as to secure that relief from the expenses of supporting a territorial, government, which would be secured by the admission of the State.

The bill has already been favorably reported from your committee, and from the action of the people of Colorado in regard to admission under it, it may be inferred that the conditions imposed therein will be both effective and satisfactory.

As the terms of office of some of the State officers and members of the legislature elect have expired by the provisions of the Constitution, and as it is provided that the territorial officers shall continue to act until relieved by such State officers, we recommend the addition of the fourth section herewith reported, providing for a general election.

As it has been the practice of the government to admit new States without requiring any specified amount of population; and as the present population of Colorado appears to be equal or more than many States heretofore admitted ; and as it appears that it is the almost unanimous wish of her people to be admitted under the present bill; and as Congress has expressly invited her admission by the enabling act aforesaid, it seems but just to the people of Colorado that the plighted faith of the government should be made good by the admission of the State into the Union, which your committee unanimously recommend.