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COMING CHANGES.

Great changes will doubtless be witnessed in the Western half of our country during the next four years. Several new States may be admitted, as indeed should be done. It is now twelve years since the last State—Colorado—was admitted into the Union. It has been a quarter of a century since Nevada was admitted, and yet it has to-day a population of only about one-sixth that of Oregon, which was itself admitted nearly thirty years ago. Dakota may make two States, because of its large Republican majority; Washington will also come in; and possibly two or three others. Montana certainly should be admitted, as well as New Mexico, and possibly Idaho and Wyoming. Utah has enough population and wealth, but the curse of Mormonism is still upon it, though greatly checked and weakened by the official power of a man who keeps his word—Grover Cleveland. California, since it has so greatly increased, both North and South, ought really to be divided, though this is a difficult thing to do. If it were not, Texas would make three or four good-sized States.

Idaho is the Territory most uncertain as to its final disposition. Senator Stewart of Nevada, with some assistance, wants to annex its Southern part to that pocket-borough State, to eke out its scant population and resources; and Washington Territory would not object to receiving the "pan-handle" as an Eastern annexation. Indeed, to an impartial outsider, the scheme of dividing Idaho between Nevada, Montana, and Washington, appears to be a good one; though it is natural to protest against its obliteration as a separate commonwealth. However, the game of politics has little regard for natural lines or for reason and right.

But with the admission of several of the Territories, the West—the West which is still west of the West of even a quarter of a century ago—except almost equally unknown California and Oregon—will assume new political importance. The Territories are represented in Congress by delegates, but they have no vote, and in the Senate they are not directly represented at all. Their officials are frequently men of the carpet-bag order—sent out merely to fulfill some political promise, or consummate some political job, and who therefore have little or no interest of the welfare of the region in which they officiate. The Territories are only small pawns in the game, whose winning or losing are of little consequence—whose interests and demands are unknown or unheeded. The small States are in a far more advantageous position as regards power and influence in the Federal economy. They have their own governments, elect their own officials, and have at the least three voices and votes—two of them in the Senate, in Congress.

This Western region—both Northwestern and Southwestern—needs this influence, these voices and votes. When it has them, if they work together for her interests, they will make the capabilities and possibilities of this region better known and understood, and will greatly advance its comparative importance in the Sisterhood of States.

This may be done, ought to be done, regardless of party, but we fear it will not be. The people of this great Northwest cannot be fairly, honestly, properly represented by any man who, whatever his politics, serves first and chiefly the railroads, monopolies, and oppressive combinations of capital. Until the Pacific Coast overthrows the political power of its Stanfords and its Dolphs, its people will deserve to feel the thongs of the oppressors across their necks.

Yet even those cannot entirely check or divert the progress of this great region. New highways will be built; new

fields, in agriculture, in mining, in manufacturing, will be opened up; there will be better culture of all sorts, and an immensely developed volume of business; and after a fashion the people will prosper anyway. If this prosperity could be aided and encouraged by just and useful laws, and true and faithful lawmakers, instead of retarded the opposite sort of laws and lawmakers, then indeed would its giant strides of progress astonish all beholders.

The Republican County Committee of San Francisco have adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That party patronage belongs to the successful party; when Republican candidates have been elected the people have shown by their votes that a change was desired, not only of the heads of departments, but also of all subordinates; any bestowal of official position or retention in office of political opponents, at the instigation of Democratic magnates would be a violation of the express will of those who voted for their removal, would be suicidal in its results and treasonable to the Republican party, which, owing no debt to its political enemies, has a right to demand that party friends only should receive official preference."

Mr. Cleveland withstood this sort of doctrine, but whether Mr. Harrison will resist it is to be seen.

It has now been over four weeks since the case of Hartman vs. Young, involving the clerkship of Umatilla county, was argued and submitted to the Supreme Court, and yet no decision has been rendered, though other cases, argued long since then, and involving far more and difficult questions of law, have been decided. A good many people, who think they know a thing or two, are prepared to be surprised.

The Presidential term of office should be extended to six years, and the President elected by a popular vote. United States Senators should be elected the same way. But these reforms can only come through constitutional amendments, which must originate with Congress, and so there is little hope of their coming to pass.

When a man whose hair was gray but whose beard was yet black was asked to give a reason for the difference, he replied that it was because his hair was twenty years older than his beard. But we sometimes see men whose beard is whitening, but whose hair is yet of raven hue. Now let some wise man explain this as wittily as the other did.

The Walla Walla Union says that a number of Chinamen voted at the recent election in that city. Why don't the Pendleton Chinamen begin to assert their "God-given rights?" The majority of the people seem to have no objection to their citizenship, and they will doubtless soon take advantage of the decision everywhere.

It is evident that one night in Pendleton is enough for a poor "show." Why respectable papers should bestow praise upon such an outfit as the late Rochester Comedy Company, and thereby deceive the people of neighboring towns, is a mystery, unless on the principle that "misery loves company."

A REPUBLICAN exchange croons: "So let the bars down low, And let G. Cleveland go."

Yes, And let the surplus flow, And let high taxes grow.

Monument to Senator Nesmith. As far back as 1886 steps were taken to have a monument erected to the memory of Col. J. W. Nesmith, says the Independent West Side. The last legislature appropriated \$250 for the purpose. The monument has arrived and is being placed over his grave on the old home farm, near Derry, Polk county, but the state is not paying for it. The family is bearing the total expense and the sum appropriated, we understand, will not be drawn from the treasury. The reason is that the amount was so small as to scarcely be worth applying in the manner intended. The monument is of marble and granite and is sixteen feet high with a polished base covering sixteen square feet. It will mark the last resting place of one of Oregon's noblest pioneers and one whose hand was ever ready to take hold of any public measure which promised advantage and advancement to the state of Oregon.

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