

# The Daily Morning Astorian.

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ASTORIA, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1883.

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**PRAYER FOR ADMISSION.**  
Full Text of the Canon Memorial for the Admission of Washington Territory. Adopted by the Legislature at Olympia Nov. 4th.

Council Memorial, No. 4. In the Council by Mr. Caton, of Walla Walla county.

**MEMORIAL.**  
Praying an enabling act for admission of the state of Washington into the Union.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The people of the territory of Washington by their legislative assembly but earnestly protest against the further continuance by congress of the so-called territorial government—amere creation of congress unknown to the constitution of the United States—the only warrant for such a political anomaly in our institutions being based upon a custom sanctioned so long that it has grown to be regarded as the necessary method whereby territory of the nation can be prepared for future states of the federal union. Earnestly this people pray that congress will remove their political disabilities, and that they may enjoy the constitutional guarantee of a government, republican in form, where the government derives all its just powers from the consent of the governed.

The settlers of this territory have brought hither to establish a state the necessary intelligence, loyalty and patriotic motives. It is conceded that they possess the necessary qualifications, but still are they denied the first and most essential element of American citizenship. They do not participate in the selection of the chief magistrate of the nation; they are denied the right to elect their own officers; they cannot sue a citizen of one of the states in the federal courts because they are not recognized as citizens of a state; they are denied representation in the congress of the United States; they cannot make their own laws; they are mere dependents upon your honorable body, who claim to adopt rules for their government under an implied power that you make rules and regulations as to the disposition of the territory and other property of the government; in fact every relation of such a government to the congress of the United States exhibits a dependence as humiliating as that so terribly denounced in the grandest of indictments drafted by the immortal Jefferson arraiging the crown of Great Britain for withholding popular rights from our ancestors.

Our people are a commonwealth. We are a state though denied such name. As a state, as a people, as a community, we are entitled to demand that the congress of the United States guarantee to us a republican form of government. In urgency of which we respectfully submit.

First. That the people are sufficient in numbers to successfully maintain a state government; The population of Washington territory largely exceeds that of many of the states when admitted. It is not less than 125,000 and well informed and observant persons place it as high as 150,000. The immigration now and for the past year has been unexampled in the history of the growth of American states and territories. It is also worthy of remark that transition from territorial vassalage to statehood and sovereignty have always been followed by renewed growth, and surely the circumstances and present surroundings of this territory assure that increased prosperity, importance and wealth. We beg to refer to the admission of other states.

California was admitted with a population of 383,797. Colorado at the census preceding admission numbered 382,864. Florida at the census following admission had a population of 87,445, while at the previous census it numbered 54,477. Kansas came in with 107,206. Iowa at the census before admission, 28,847; in 1860, 122,938. Nevada before admission, 6857, subsequent, 42,491, and in 1880 boasted of a population of 42,696. Oregon was admitted in 1859, and at the census of the subsequent year had 52,455.

These statistics establish the fact that our population greatly outnumbers that of numerous other successful applicants for admission. By all the precedents concluded upon this proposition, Washington Territory possesses the requisite population.

Our people are amply able to maintain a state government. This is demonstrated by a comparison of the valuation of taxable property in this territory with that in several other states in the Federal Union.

Washington Territory (in 1883).....	\$44,197,567
Colorado (in 1880).....	43,072,648
Florida (in 1880).....	29,471,227
Nevada (in 1880).....	29,564,872
Oregon (in 1880).....	46,422,817

In the support of an insane asylum, a territorial penitentiary and a university the territory expends over \$80,000. With the exception of the trifling contribution of the United States for the trying of their causes, and the salaries of the judges, the district attorney and marshal, the people pay the expenses of their courts. The expenses of the legislature are partially paid by the United States. The people elect the members, but their laws are subject to congressional approval. The governor and secretary are paid by the United States, but how cordially would the people pay their salaries for the democratic privilege of electing their own rulers. All these expenses are derived from taxation for territorial purposes, in addition to our county, school, road and municipal taxes.

The territory, devoid of sovereignty, owns no property and cannot hold any from which an income can be derived, and thus it is the taxpayers are called upon this burden to maintain a government not of their own making.

Third. Our great natural resources, our future wealth, demand such recognition, and they are entitled to con-

gressional representation to secure their development.  
With the requisite population in numbers, who have demonstrated their ability to maintain a government, we pray that our disabilities be removed and we be restored to those rights which belong to American birthright and citizenship, the right to select our own rulers, to make our own laws. We ask for nothing that is not your duty to confer; we pray only to be allowed to consider ourselves citizens of the United States of America, and as in right, duty and good conscience we will ever pray.

**GRAY'S HARBOR.**

We have been shown a letter written to a gentleman here, by Walter Laidlaw, proprietor of the Mendocino lumber establishment in San Francisco, from which we are permitted to extract the following: "My friend and fellow-townsmen, Hon. J. R. Glascock, M. C., elect, leaving here for Washington to-morrow. I have viewed him yesterday for the purpose of pointing out the necessity of establishing a first-class light-house at the entrance of Gray's Harbor. He has promised to do all he can in furtherance of the project, and the support of the present, is therefore, to request you to bring such influence to bear on your representative in Congress as to cause him to do all he can in advancing the same object. This matter really belongs to your representative, and Mr. Glascock will not infringe on his prerogative, but the latter will be able to rely on the fullest co-operation of Mr. Glascock in this matter."

Following is the text of Mr. Goodell's memorial: "Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Washington, would respectfully represent that a lighthouse is needed at the entrance of Gray's Harbor, inasmuch as said Gray's Harbor is one of the most important seaports on our coast, having an entrance scarcely one mile wide, with low and dangerous sand banks adjacent, and has recently become the seat of extensive commercial and manufacturing industry which is steadily and rapidly growing in amount. It is the only natural outlet to the markets of the world for one of the most extensive and valuable timber districts in the United States, also of a vast area rich in agricultural resources, also coal, metals and other elements of wealth. Already a line of steamers is established between the harbor and Portland, the commercial metropolis of Oregon, and a line of sailing vessels to San Francisco, the commercial center of the Pacific coast. Other lines are projected and it is expected that next year a line of standard gauge railroads will connect the harbor with the great commercial emporium of Puget Sound.

It is a pity Mr. Goodell saw fit to ignore Astoria, and omit to mention that the "line of steamers" terminated at Astoria, as far as direct shipments are concerned. —Ed. Astorian. We therefore, respectfully petition your honorable bodies to make an appropriation for the purpose herein stated, and as in duty bound your memorialists will ever pray.

**SEA-OTTER HUNTING.**  
Last evening in conversation with a gentleman from the west coast, we gathered some interesting facts about the sea-otter industry.  
Along the ocean beach between Gray's Harbor and the mouth of the gangue railroads, at intervals of about two miles away may be seen high, raised derricks with a seat at the top, which is the outlook of the otter hunter. When the practiced eye of the patient watcher detects from his lofty perch the head of one of these animals bobbing about the surface of the water, not beyond the inner breakers, he blazes away at it with his Sharpe's, or Winchester rifle, and generally kills his game. The dead otter floats about in the current for a while and at last is washed up on the beach by the surf and is secured by the slayer.

The sea-otter skin affords one of the most valuable furs of commerce, but the animals are becoming very scarce. The hunter considers himself in luck who captures on an average one a month. It must be a lonely life he leads away on that wild ocean beach, sentinelled on his high eyrie, day in and out, in vain, like another Saint Simon Stylites on his pillar, or a real impersonation of "Patience on a monument, smiling at grief."

One of the most successful and notable of the sea otter hunters is a young Canadian named Wetherill, who has planted a little cabin on a small rock out in the breakers, known as Copolis Rock. This rock stands about 400 yards out in the ocean, and is 50 feet high and less than 100 feet square. When the sea is loud the swash of the breakers beats high above and over the hunter's cabin. To keep himself from drowning on being swept off on such occasions, he has made his cabin taut and tight as a sea boat's deck, and screwed it to its foundation with bolts drilled into the rocks, and cemented with sulphur. Here he keeps watch and ward for months at a stretch, without leaving the rock. He has two Indian assistants stationed on shore, to whom he signals when he has shot an otter, who watch for the jetsam and secure the fur. Mr. Wetherill secured last year 21 furs. He has one of the silver-tipped variety, now on hand, which he says is worth \$150. When it is properly prepared and worked up into articles it will bring in the stores an aggregate sum of \$700. For ordinary furs he obtains \$75. He sells them to Mr. Emerson, at the Hoquiam mills, who ships them thence by lumber vessel to San Francisco.

When the season's hunt is over the hunter brings his catch down to the trading post. It is the usual course of trade, in such cases, generally. The trapper swaps at the mill store for another season's supplies. Then with the surplus, usually, a glorious spree, a little banking at the tiger in some club room until the money is all gone, then off to the coast for another year's vigil.—Corr. Seattle Herald.

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