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### Admission of Oklahoma.

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**ADMISSION OF OKLAHOMA.**

DECEMBER 20, 1893.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WHEELER, of Alabama, from the Committee on the Territories, submitted the following

**REPORT:**

[To accompany H. R. 4857.]

The Committee, on the Territories, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4857) to enable the people of Oklahoma to form a constitution and State government, and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, beg leave to make the following report:

The Territory contains, as shown by a map prepared in the Interior Department, 23,265,709 acres or 36,353 square miles, and this estimate does not include the disputed lands known as Greer County, which contains 1,512,166 acres.

The following States of the Union contain a less area than the proposed State of Oklahoma:

Rhode Island.....	1, 250
Delaware.....	2, 050
Connecticut.....	4, 990
New Jersey.....	7, 815
Massachusetts.....	8, 315
New Hampshire.....	9, 305
Vermont.....	9, 565
Maryland.....	12, 210
West Virginia.....	24, 780
South Carolina.....	30, 570
Maine.....	33, 040
Indiana.....	36, 350

According to the report of the governor of the Territory November 3, 1893, Oklahoma contains some 250,000 inhabitants.

The following table shows that every State which has been heretofore admitted to the Union had a less population by the census next preceding the date of admission than is now possessed by the proposed State of Oklahoma:

Table showing date of admission of each State, the representative ratio at date of admission, the population by the census taken next preceding the admission, the population by the census next following the admission, and the ratio of increase during decade of admission.

State.	Date of admission.	Representative ratio on previous census.	Population by census next previous to admission.			Population by following census.			Per cent of increase.
			White.	Colored.*	Total.	White.	Colored.*	Total.	
Vermont.....	Mar. 4, 1791	33, 000	85, 154	271	85, 425	153, 908	557	154, 465	80
Kentucky.....	June 1, 1792	33, 000	61, 133	12, 544	73, 667	179, 873	41, 082	220, 955	300
Tennessee.....	June 1, 1796	33, 000	31, 913	3, 778	35, 691	91, 709	13, 893	105, 602	196
Ohio.....	Nov. 29, 1802	31, 000	45, 028	337	45, 365	228, 861	1, 899	230, 760	496
Louisiana.....	Apr. 30, 1812	35, 000	34, 311	42, 245	76, 556	73, 883	79, 540	152, 923	199
Indiana.....	Dec. 11, 1816	35, 000	23, 890	298	24, 188	145, 758	630	146, 388	500
Mississippi.....	Dec. 10, 1817	35, 000	23, 024	17, 328	40, 352	85, 451	42, 450	127, 901	400
Alabama.....	Dec. 14, 1819	35, 000							
Illinois.....	Dec. 3, 1818	35, 000	11, 501	781	12, 292	53, 788	1, 374	55, 162	350
Maine.....	Mar. 15, 1820	35, 000	227, 736	929	228, 665	297, 840	1, 192	298, 932	32
Missouri.....	Aug. 10, 1821	40, 000	55, 988	10, 569	66, 557	114, 795	25, 660	140, 455	111
Arkansas.....	June 15, 1836	47, 700	25, 671	4, 717	30, 388	77, 174	20, 400	97, 574	221
Michigan.....	Jan. 26, 1837	47, 700	31, 346	293	31, 679	211, 560	707	212, 267	570
Florida.....	Mar. 3, 1845	70, 680	27, 943	26, 534	54, 477	47, 203	40, 242	87, 445	60
Texas.....	Dec. 29, 1845	70, 680				154, 034	58, 558	212, 592	.....
Iowa.....	Dec. 28, 1846	70, 680	42, 924	188	43, 112	191, 881	333	192, 214	345
Wisconsin.....	May 29, 1848	70, 680	30, 749	196	30, 945	304, 756	635	305, 391	896
California.....	Sept. 9, 1850	98, 423	91, 635	962	101, 597	323, 177	4, 086	327, 263	310
Minnesota.....	May 11, 1858	93, 423	6, 038	39	6, 077	169, 395	259	169, 654	2, 739
Oregon.....	Feb. 14, 1859	93, 423	13, 087	207	13, 294	52, 160	128	52, 288	294
Kansas.....	Jan. 29, 1861	127, 381	106, 390	627	107, 017	346, 377	17, 108	363, 485	240
West Virginia.....	June 19, 1863	127, 381				424, 033	17, 980	442, 013	.....
Nevada.....	Oct. 31, 1864	127, 381	6, 812	45	6, 857	38, 959	357	39, 316	550
Nebraska.....	Mar. 1, 1867	127, 381	28, 696	82	28, 778	122, 117	789	122, 906	322
Colorado.....	Aug. 1, 1876	131, 425	39, 221	456	39, 677	191, 126	2, 435	194, 327	38
North Dakota.....	Nov. 2, 1889	131, 435	36, 094	1815	36, 909	182, 123	373	182, 496	36
South Dakota.....	.....do.....	131, 435	97, 053	11, 215	98, 268	327, 290	1, 518	328, 808	36
Washington.....	Nov. 11, 1889	131, 425	67, 199	7, 917	75, 116	340, 513	8, 877	349, 390	406
Idaho.....	July 3, 1890	151, 912	29, 013	3, 597	32, 610	82, 018	2, 367	84, 219	182
Wyoming.....	July 11, 1890	151, 912	19, 437	1, 352	20, 789	59, 275	1, 425	60, 700	.....

\* Including all except whites. † Estimated.

The people who settled Oklahoma brought with them little more than energy, pluck, endurance, and more than the average of the progressive spirit which characterizes the best American citizens. Therefore the money value of the property is not so large as the property in other Territories which have been admitted. The total assessed value of property in Oklahoma Territory during the last three years is as follows:

Total assessed value of property for—

1891.....	\$6, 878, 923.95
1892.....	11, 485, 162.45
1893.....	13, 951, 056.38

The increase is now so rapid that these figures are reported to be far below the actual value of the property.

Plans for new railroads are being matured and already two trunk lines of railroads pass through the Territory together with a short line called the Choctaw Railroad.

The Territory is in need of a few more lines, as many portions of the Territory are removed 60 to 100 miles from the railroad. A more direct connection with the pineries of Arkansas would be of great advantage. The table below shows the miles of track and its nature, in Oklahoma, exclusive of the Cherokee Strip:

Name.	Miles.	Value per mile.	Total.
<b>Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe R. R.:</b>			
Main track.....	84	\$5,500	\$462,000
Side track.....	12.32	2,000	24,640
Buildings.....			12,730
Rolling stock.....			117,600
<b>Total.....</b>			<b>616,970</b>
<b>Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific R. R.:</b>			
Main track.....	56.76	5,500	312,180
Side track.....	4.06	2,000	8,120
Buildings.....			6,550
Rolling stock.....			22,282
<b>Total.....</b>			<b>349,082</b>

The report of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad for the year ending June 30, 1893, gives the following table showing the nature and amount of its business within the Territory during the past year:

Name.	Miles.	Value per mile.	Total.
Choctaw Coal Road, main track.....	31.40	\$4,006	\$125,600
Western Union Telegraph Co.....	123.60	150	18,520
Choctaw Telegraph Co.....	30	75	2,250
Pullman Palace Car Co. (5 cars).....			6,000
			152,370

There are thirty banks in the Territory of Oklahoma, six national banks, each having a capital of \$50,000. The other banks are private banks, having capital stocks of from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Reports from five of the national banks show deposits of \$685,547.87 and loans and discounts of \$322,573.68. The private banks which have made reports which have been brought to our attention show an average capital stock of \$24,000, average deposits \$31,000, and average loans and discounts \$30,000. These figures were obtained about the 1st of last October.

Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the use and benefit of public schools, and the committee learn that very few if any school districts have failed to provide themselves with very comfortable schoolhouses, and the committee can not learn that any of the school districts have incurred any bonded indebtedness.

The Territorial legislature has been very prompt to provide facilities for advanced education. By act of that body a Territorial university was located at Norman and a Territorial normal school at Edmond and the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater. The university has made a very excellent start toward accomplishing the purpose for which it was created. It is supported by a one-half mill tax, which will amount to about \$8,000 per year. The course would correspond favorably with that of Eastern colleges. A new building has just been completed for the university.

The normal school at Edmond aims to prepare teachers for the public schools, and has just completed a fine building.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater is the best endowed of any of the schools of the Territory, and bids fair to do most excellent work. It was established in pursuance of an act of Congress authorizing the establishment and endowment of colleges for the benefit of agriculture and mechanic arts, appropriating \$15,000 for the fiscal year 1890, and providing for \$1,000 increase each year for ten years. The experimental station issues a bulletin of the results of their investigation, which promises much good to the Territory.

The President's proclamation opening the Cherokee Outlet reserves the thirteenth section for the benefit of the three colleges. This will make a very neat income for each of the colleges, once it is leased.

Each of the institutions has in attendance about 100 students, and new ones constantly coming. It is the aim to have these colleges correspond with the high school and make a complete system of education from the lowest to the highest.

There are several private institutions doing good work and which have a good attendance.

Oklahoma is blest with an unsurpassed climate, and the soil in great part of the Territory is admirably adapted to growing almost every kind of plant. In agriculture the Territory has a never-failing source of support and income. With the exception of one year the seasons have been excellent. Wheat this year made a very fine yield, averaging about 20 bushels to the acre all over the Territory. Some pieces are reported as yielding 62 bushels to the acre, and very many tracts of land have yielded an average of 40 bushels per acre for every acre planted. In many places corn and oats have yielded as high as 40 bushels per acre. The committee gives below a statement of the governor, showing the acreage of various agricultural deposits:

Farm land in use .....	acres..	2,372,482
Cash value of farms .....		\$13,022,345
Cash value of farm implements .....		\$340,761
Corn (average yield 40 bushels) .....	acres..	284,254
Wheat (average yield 20 bushels) .....	do...	222,310
Oats (average yield 35 bushels) .....	do...	109,374
Cotton (average yield 500 pounds) .....	do...	21,311
Sorghum .....	do...	18,755
Hungarian millet .....	do...	14,121
Broom corn .....	do...	4,422

The reports that society was disorganized were in a great measure exaggerated, and the condition of the Territory in this respect is greatly improved.

The governor makes the following reports of the churches as they existed in October:

Church.	No.	No. of members.	Average membership.
Episcopal .....	6	166	27
Methodist Episcopal (North) .....	165	2,136	13
Baptist .....	25	800	32
Congregational .....	24	618	26
Catholic .....	25	10,000	250
Presbyterian .....	24	750	30
Epworth League .....	3		
Young Men's Christian Association .....	1	15	
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor .....	50	1,000	

As yet there have been no public buildings erected, but measures have been taken to provide all necessary edifices of this character.

The governor reports that the results obtained from leasing the school lands of Oklahoma are eminently satisfactory, and this will in the near future be a very great source of income to the public schools. Already very nearly \$100,000 in cash and notes has been received from leasing the school lands. The leases of lands in Oklahoma proper expire next April, and these lands ought to be released this winter. This will probably be upon us at very nearly the same time as the leasing of the Cherokee Strip lands and will make the business of that department very large.

The governor gives the following tabulated statement of funds received from the leasing of school lands for the year ending June 30, 1893:

Total cash received for fiscal year ending June 30, 1893 .....	\$21,021.83
Total expenses for fiscal year ending June 30, 1893 .....	1,857.16
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Balance .....	19,164.67
	<hr/>
Total amount covered into Territorial treasury for fiscal year ending June 30, 1893 .....	18,941.48
Cash on hand June 30, 1893 .....	223.19
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Net proceeds from leasing school lands for fiscal year ending June 30, 1893 .....	19,164.67
	<hr/>
Notes on hand June 30, 1893:	
Due January 1, 1892 .....	1,478.47
Due April 1, 1892 .....	485.40
Due April 1, 1893 .....	1,137.15
Miscellaneous .....	640.75
Due January 1, 1894 .....	10,694.46
Due April 1, 1894 .....	1,494.00
Due December 15, 1893 .....	13,760.97
Due December 15, 1894 .....	8,808.93
Due December 15, 1895 .....	3,177.46
Due December 15, 1892 .....	3,838.65
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Total.....	45,516.24

The committee are convinced that there is a very enviable future for this Territory, and that its progress would be much enhanced by its being admitted to statehood.

The committee report back bill H. R. 4857 and recommend that it do pass with the following amendments:

At the end of section 1 add these words:

But inasmuch as there is a controversy between the United States and the State of Texas as to the ownership of what is known as Greer County, it is hereby expressly provided that this act shall not be construed to apply to said Greer County until the title to the same has been adjudicated and determined to be in the United States.

In line 3, section 6, strike out the word "one" and insert the word "two," and add the letter "s" to the word "Representative."

In line 4 add the letter "s" to the word "Representative."

In line 5, section 6, after the word "Congress," insert the words "and to the Fifty-fourth Congress."

At end of section 8 add the following:

That upon said Territory becoming a State that there be donated for State, charitable, educational, penal, and reformatory institutions, not otherwise provided for, two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land not otherwise donated or appropriated; said land to be apportioned among said institutions as the legislature of said State may provide.

That five per centum of the proceeds of the sales of public lands lying within said State, which shall be sold by the United States subsequent to the admission of said State into the Union, after deducting all the expenses incident to the same, shall be paid to the said State, to be used as a permanent fund, the interest of which only shall be expended for the support of the common schools within said State.

In line 3, section 16, strike out the word "a" and insert the word "two," and in line 4 after the word "Congress" insert the words, "and in the Fifty-fourth Congress."

