ARIZONA—ORGANIZATION OF TERRITORY OF.

JANUARY 12, 1857.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MORRILL, from the Committee on Territories, gave notice of his intention to make the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Territories, to whom was referred the "memorial of the people of the southwestern part of the Territory of New Mexico, praying for the organization of a new Territory," and also of "the proceedings of the convention of the people of the southwestern part of the Territory of New Mexico to organize a separate Territory," have had the same under consideration, and report as follows, to wit:

The remoteness of the western portion of the Territory from the capital and the more populous eastern portion of the Territory, and its increased extent consequent upon the annexation of what is commonly called the *Gadsden Purchase,* in A. D. 1853, seems to have left the inhabitants without much care of the local government, and still less of the general government. The few lines which compose the brief act of Congress *approved August* 4, 1854, "declaring the southern boundary of New Mexico," by which the then recently acquired territory was incorporated with the Territory of New Mexico, appears to be the first and last notice the people there have received since their allegiance has been changed from Mexico to the United States.

It appears from the papers as above referred to, and from other evidence submitted to the committee, that the people of the western portion of New Nexico complain—

First. That they have not been permitted to exercise the right of freemen under the laws and Constitution of the United States.

Second. That they have had no courts, laws, or magistrates.

Third. That they are isolated, cut off, and among savage tribes, with no legal organization, and without any of the privileges of citizenship.

Fourth. That though nominally in the county of Doña Ana, in the Territory of New Mexico, they have never had the benefit of laws or civil officers, nor have they any protection for life, liberty, or property.

Fifth. That the vast extent of the present Territory of New Mexico, and the great natural basins between the eastern and western portions of the same, will forever present adverse interests, and prevent the harmonious action of either a territorial or State government.

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They also pray that measures shall be taken for the speedy settlement of land titles, for the survey of the public lands, for the protection of mining interests, for the establishment of a post route, and the subjugation of the hostile tribes of Indians which infest the country; and they also pray that Congress will admit Mr. N. P. Cook, of Arizona, the delegate elect, to a seat in the House of Representatives, to all the privileges of delegates from other Territories.

This long list of grievances, as set forth by the people of that portion of New Mexico called Arizona, and which there is no reason to doubt are for the major part real grievances, certainly requires an early remedy. Whether a new Territory should be established, or whether other legislative action calculated to remove the chief causes of complaint should be resorted to, was the first point to be determined in the discussion by the committee.

From the statements given to the committee by the most competent available witnesses, there appears no reliable data upon which to found an accurate estimate of the present numbers of the white population in that portion of the Territory which seeks a separate organization. The highest supposition is, that it reaches from *eight to ten thousand*, and the lowest is from *two to three thousand*. A medium between these suppositions would fix the present number at from *five to seven thousand* of white inhabitants. This number is deemed too small by the committee, unless for the gravest reasons, to warrant the large expenditure which a new territorial government would require, especially when it is believed the chief advantages sought may be had in a more economical way.

It is to be presumed that the eastern portion of New Mexico will be prepared at no distant day for admission into the Union as a State. When the Territory is divided for that purpose, as it unquestionably will be, *then* would seem to be the proper time for the establishment of a new territorial government. Such a delay, if the remedies proposed by the committee shall be adopted, will subject the memorialists to very slight remaining inconveniences, and these, in the natural order of events, can remain but for a brief time only.

The committee have, therefore, arrived at the conclusion that a bill to establish a separate judicial district south of the Gila, and to create the office of surveyor general therein, to provide for the adjudication of certain land claims, to grant donations to actual settlers, to survey certain lands, and to provide for the representation of the inhabitants of "the Gadsden Purchase" in the territorial legislature of New Mexico, would be all the legislative redress, with mere minor exceptions, that the case requires; and they report a bill accordingly.