

# The Eagle.

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SILVER CITY, N. M., DECEMBER 25, 1895.

Silver	.....	.66 1/2
Lead	.....	.3.10

## IS IT FAIR?

Residents of New Mexico who are anxious to see the territory admitted to the union will consider with a great deal of interest the apportionment of delegates to the constitutional convention as embodied in Delegate Catron's bill. The bill provides for eighty-one delegates to be appointed as follows: Bernalillo county, eleven; Chaves county, one; Colfax county, four; Dona Ana county, five; Eddy county, one; Grant county, five; Lincoln county, two; Mora county, six; Guadalupe county, two; Rio Arriba county, six; San Juan county, one; Union county, one; San Miguel county, ten; Santa Fe county, seven; Sierra county, two; Socorro county, five; Taos county, five; Valencia county, seven.

It was to be expected that a republican delegate would favor the republican party as much as possible, but this apportionment seems to be entirely too one sided. For the past ten years Grant county has cast, on an average, several hundred more votes than Valencia county, yet Valencia has seven delegates to Grant five. Valencia is reliably and overwhelmingly republican, while Grant might elect democratic delegates. The counties of Sierra, Chaves and Eddy poll a good many more votes than Valencia, yet these three counties are to be accorded but four delegates to Valencia seven. Santa Fe county casts about twice as many votes as Valencia, but it will have the same number of delegates to the constitutional convention as Valencia.

Valencia county gave Catron over a thousand majority and Santa Fe didn't. Dona Ana, Grant and Socorro counties each cast many more votes than Valencia, yet each of these counties will have but five delegates to Valencia seven. San Miguel county casts about three times as many votes as Valencia and more votes than Bernalillo, yet San Miguel has but three more delegates than Valencia and has less than Bernalillo. Verily St. Catron is looking out for his own.

In view of these facts, it will be difficult to persuade the democrats of the territory that they are getting a square deal, but it is not at all likely that they will oppose statehood on this ground.

The democrats of New Mexico earnestly desire statehood and they are not going to allow such a trifle as a failure to get proper representation in the constitutional convention prevent them from working in favor of statehood. Delegate Catron will have the support of the democrats of the territory in his efforts to secure statehood in spite of the fact that none of the democrats of the territory expect fair treatment at his hands. If he can get a bill providing for the admission of New Mexico to the union through congress, and we doubt his ability to do so very much, he will have the united support of the New Mexico democracy. His republican friends profess to believe that he will be able to get anything through congress which he wants to get through, but we are of the opinion that they have greatly over-estimated the ability of their leader. There are abler men in the republican party in New Mexico than Mr. Catron and the republican will discover his before they are many months older.

Since the killing of Merrill and his daughter near Ash Spring there has been a persistent effort on the part of some of the newspapers to make it appear that the reported Indian outbreak was all for effect and that it was done by the residents of the section of country surrounding Fort Thomas and in order

to secure the restoration of that post. These papers are either studiously misrepresenting the state of affairs or their editors are not familiar with the country where these depredations have been committed. But for the protection which the troops at Fort Thomas furnished against attacks by hostile Indians, the people of the Gila valley do not care whether there is a post in the valley or not. They are good sensible people and are not pining for the society of army lieutenants. They want protection and think that they are entitled to it as a matter of right. For many years that section of country has been harrassed by hostile Indians and it will continue to be harrassed as long as there is a handful of the bloodthirsty Apaches remaining on the reservation. It is idle to talk about civilizing these Indians. They will not be civilized. They will remain as a menace to residents of the country surrounding the reservation as long as the Apache tribe endures and it is no more than right the government should furnish protection to the citizens whose lives are in constant peril.

ALREADY John Bull is getting ready to back out of the Venezuela affair as gracefully as possible. The English diplomats were taken by surprise at the action of congress in sustaining the president and the bullying talk of the English papers grew much softer as soon as they found that President Cleveland did not stand alone in the matter. At first the great English newspaper writers, who know about as much of this country as they do of the region surrounding the north pole, were inclined to take the message as a bit of campaign thunder, but now that they have ascertained that there is no politics about it they are taking it a little more seriously. They will talk war for a time and then discover some hole to crawl out of and that will be the end of it. No amount of provocation will induce John Bull to put himself up as a target for American bullets. He has had quite enough experience in that line.