STATEHOOD.

The house of representatives on Wednesday adopted the report of the committee as adopted by the senate, by which North and South Dakota, Washington and Montana will be able to join the sisterhood of states within the year 1889. President Cleveland has refused to sign bills of almost equal importance as this, but we will not permit ourselves to think that he would incur damnation from the entire western country by declining to sign this bill and thus keep the territories longer out of the Union.

On the 7th of May next, should the president sign the bill, there will be an election of members of the convention which will meet on the 4th of July to prepare a state constitution. If the delegates complete their labors in time, the constitution will be submitted to the people's vote in October; then if it be approved the territory will be admitted by the president's proclamation. But we have heard of constitutional conventions, Ohio for instance, where it consumed a year before the state constitution was completed, there is a bare chance that the people of this territory may not have the pleasure of including the acquisition of statehood among the many other blessings for which they are to give thanks on next Thanksgiving day.

If the people are deprived of it they have only the Democratic congress to censure, and when that party met with such an overwhelming defeat in November last their first thought was to try and have the territories admitted and thereby gain a little glory. We know that in this territory there were Democratic workers who journeyed to Washington with no other purpose in view than to stick pins into delegate Voorhees and try to work him into doing something. Their first cry was to get the territory admitted so as to rob the Republican party of the credit which would surely be theirs in the next congress. We question even now, whether the Democrats should be given the honor of passing the bill; it was done simply through pique, and the credit belongs only to the party who, on March 4th, will take the reins of the administration in their hands.

It is a burning shame and a disgrace that political reasons should be brought up where the admission of a territory as a state is concerned. The action on the part of the Democratic congress has deprived thousands of people of the full rights of citizenship; and why? simply because the party who has just been relegated to the list of "outs" thought that it would give their opponents too much power in the future elections. The matter has been already delayed too long, and had it not been for the Republican victory at the last election it is doubtful if the bill would have been passed even now.