

Iowa, 13; Maine, 6; Michigan, 8; Minnesota, 9; New Hampshire, 4; North Dakota, 3; Oregon, 3; Pennsylvania, 32; Rhode Island, 4; South Dakota, 4; Vermont, 4; Washington, 4; total, 84. This would leave 46 to Weaver if he has carried them all; but at this hour some states claimed for him are very close and correspondingly uncertain, Kansas, Nebraska and one in Oregon being the doubtful quantity.

The states electing legislatures which will choose United States senators are (where such choice results in a change from one party to another) as follows: New York, California, Nevada, Wisconsin and Wyoming, with possibilities of two or three more, notably Idaho, but the appearances at the time of writing are as here given. Every one of the states named except Nevada will return a Democrat to the Senate in place of a Republican, the one from that state being a "Weaver man," and therefore a Republican loss. There will be no change the other way. The Senate now stands—Republicans 47, Democrats (counting Kyle, S. D.) 40, People's 1; with the above changes it will stand—Democrats 44, Republicans 42, People's 2, a Democratic plurality of 2. If the latter have carried the Montana legislature it would change the plurality to 3 and be a majority of 1; if any other changes are made they will be from Republicans to Populists, and will thus diminish the Republican without increasing the Democratic vote. It should be remembered, in this connection, that Vice-President Stevenson is empowered to preside over the Senate, and with the vote so close he is likely to do so most of the time; on a tie he will have the casting vote, and this still further augments the Democratic chances.

It is still too early to forecast the next House of Representatives exactly, but it will be largely Democratic; not so large as at present, of course, but the plurality will not fall much if any below 100. It will thus be seen that the Democrats have captured everything, or nearly so.

GETTING AROUND THE LAW.

A good many people in the Southern States have never taken kindly to the enforced and unpaid-for deprivation of their slaves and the concomitant benefits conferred upon the negroes; these have seen fit to look upon the situation in the light of a mercantile transaction, claiming that since they bought the slaves mainly from traders in and of the North, it would have been more just and more honorable to have returned the money when the time for emancipation came. This is a shortsighted and altogether inadequate view to take of a situation involving the liberty and right to progress of millions of human beings, but it is or was pretty widely entertained nevertheless, and the means by which laws in aid of the freedmen have been circumvented while at the same time literally complied with, have been at times as ingenious as obstructive and annoying to the government's agents. A conspicuous instance, but one not involving so much of actual injustice to the ex-slaves, was shortly after the

civil rights bill was enacted, about twenty-five years ago. Some of its provisions were rather drastic to the average Southerner, but none of them was more so than that making it a punishable offense to discriminate between white and colored guests of any hotel, restaurant or other place of public entertainment in the United States. There was but one exception made, and that was in favor of private boarding houses, an institution which Congress magnanimously permitted the proprietors to conduct in accordance with their own social rules. Immediately nearly every hotel, tavern, restaurant and lodging place in the Southern States became a private boarding house! The manner in which public hostilities all at once disappeared from the public gaze would have done credit to the constructor of a transformation scene in a pantomime.

While there can be found but very few nowadays who blame the Southerners for that clever piece of strategy, there are still fewer north of Mason and Dixon's line who look with favor or even tolerance upon some other things which have been done in the name of the law by some of the Southern legislatures, and it is questionable if a majority of the people of the South will give sanction thereto. For instance, in 1886 the legislature of Louisiana passed a law to the effect that any laboring man who failed to make a contract for a year's work by January 10, and have in his possession that contract in writing, should be declared a vagrant and on conviction be sold to the highest bidder for one year, receiving no wages for his labor, the proceeds to go to the poor fund. Florida, Mississippi and Virginia also passed laws to the effect that any man who fails to work for wages in the locality where he lives shall on conviction be compelled to work one month for the party giving the information, without wages, with ball and chain attached if necessary.

These are in effect simply a nullification of the thirteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution, which provides that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States. Of course the evasion occurs on the question of criminality, the making what in many cases may be a misfortune which the victim of it would gladly escape if he could, a crime punishable with slavery for one year; it doesn't say "slavery" but that is exactly what it amounts to and it is all wrong.

There are a great number of people in the Northern states and territories who have never lived in the South but have been there and have only words of praise for the open-handed, undisguised friendliness with which the stranger is received and cared for, who have the utmost respect for the obnoxious sentiment pervading the people and the greatest tolerance for their traditions and peculiar customs; but none of these, we take it, could or will look approvingly upon measures having in view the annulment of our highest laws and the setting aside of rights guaranteed thereby. We all know how difficult it is to enforce regulations in a community all but

unanimously opposed to them, but such opposition, for the sake of harmony all around, to say nothing of a common humanity, should be held in restraint where it cannot be overcome altogether. We are not aware of any such legislation having taken place recently, but it was rather common down South for a while; and we are quite sure that all of it has not been repealed, if indeed any of it has.

WOMEN VOTING FOR PRESIDENT.

It ought to be known, but is not very widely, that to the Territory of Utah belongs the honor of having first given to women the right to vote at general elections, and that it was exercised and in most cases enjoyed for several years, until it was abolished by Federal legislation. Those who occasionally credit Wyoming with being the pioneer commonwealth in the matter of woman suffrage of course do so through not being properly informed on the subject; of course we are speaking now of recent times.

Wyoming, however, enjoys the rare distinction of being the first state, since colonial days, in which the fair sex voted for President of the United States, which they did on Tuesday last. President Cleveland goes into the White House on the fourth of next March with the gratifying assurance that ladies actually participated in his election, at least they voted in an election in which he was the successful candidate; so that, in addition to having the biggest majority any governor ever had and the greatest vote for President any man ever had in time of peace, he now places among the distinguishing features of his triumph the circumstance to which our neighbor on the east gave birth.

It is related of a distinguished citizen of Laramie that he once said the men "encouraged the girls to vote in Wyoming" because it made them "hurry up and get the dishes done so as to get down to the polls." It is a recorded fact that ten years ago less than fifty per cent of the population of Wyoming were women, but they are catching up rapidly with the men in numbers as in political power. There are (or were in 1890) 89,343 men in Wyoming and there are 21,362 women. Alternate women delegates from Wyoming attended the Republican convention at Minneapolis. A contemporary concludes that there is no reason in the world why women might not have been regularly made presidential electors and we look for that distinction, great as it will be and even revolutionary as it may appear in some men's estimation, to be accorded them four years hence. If they are good enough to participate in the choice of electors of President and Vice-President, they are surely good enough to be electors themselves. This is speaking politically, observe you; in a general way, their goodness is not a subject requiring affirmation. The governor of Wyoming, in a late message, gives an emphatic "me too" to that declaration, and adds that he likes the way the women vote there, which may mean that a good many of them voted for him.