

WASHINGTON.

(From our regular correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1891.

Mr Harrison has never been credited with having an oversupply of backbone, but he has just given indisputable evidence that he can be stubborn when he desires to be. Sometime before congress adjourned he nominated James H Beatty to be United States District Judge for Idaho, but owing to the active opposition of the two Idaho senators and other republicans the senate adjourned without acting on the nomination. Now Mr Harrison has appointed Mr Beatty to be judge, and he will sit on the bench until the senate meets again, even if his nomination should then be rejected. Another exhibition of the obstinacy of Mr Harrison was his going off today on a week's hunting trip instead of settling the question of who shall be the nine judges of the United States Circuit Court, provided for under the new law, which he was urged to do by many members of his party, who do not wish to leave here until this matter is settled. It is thought that it was to get away from this gang that Mr Harrison went on this hunting trip, but it will do him no good, for these fellows will never leave here until these prizes are distributed.

Believing that it would be but justice to have the democratic party represented in these appointments, a number of prominent democrats have decided to present the name of Representative Culberson, of Texas, to Mr Harrison. Mr Culberson is recognized as one of the ablest lawyers in congress and he was re-elected to the Fifty-second congress, but his friends say that he would resign if appointed to the bench, as the judicial duties would be more congenial. It is not probable, however, that Mr Harrison will give the democrats even one out of the nine new judges.

Representative Sayers, of Texas, who has to a large extent taken the important place so long and so ably filled by the late Representative Samuel J Randall in the House committee on appropriations, has made a statement showing the amount appropriated by the Fifty-first congress in excess of one billion and six million dollars—stop a moment and think of that immense amount of money. He has also suggested a practical way to reform the expenditures of the government that is worthy of careful consideration by the new democratic House. He thinks that there should be one committee of not less than fifteen members upon the expenditures of the government instead of a separate committee for each department as it is now.

Mr Sayers says in advocacy of this change: "It is a fact which cannot be disputed that no single one of the several committees upon the expenditures in the departments has within the last three congresses ever investigated the expenditure of any department and reported the result of their investigation to the House. In truth, these committees have rarely ever held even a single sitting during any congress, and the consequence has been that nothing has resulted to the House from their organization. If a general committee of fifteen were organized, possessing the same dignity and enjoying the same powers and privileges as the committee on ways and means and the committee on appropriations, it cannot be doubted that such a committee would be able to furnish the House with such information and advice as would lead to a very great reduction of expenditures and a thorough reform in the administration of the public service. What do the House and the country know of the expenditures under the several laws making indefinite appropriations? The expenditures and methods of administration under these permanent appropriation acts are practically unknown to congress. What do congress and the country know about the internal administration of the Pension Office, the Patent Office, and Bureau of Internal Revenue and the several bureaus of the war and navy departments?"

Mr Sayers has another good idea too that should not be overlooked. He thinks the House should elect a permanent chairman of the committee of the whole and the committee of the whole on the state of the union. In speaking of this he said: "It has been a noticeable fact that these chairmen have been appointed by the speaker, from time to time, at the instance of the gentlemen whose bills were to be

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considered, and very often it has been the case that the rulings of such chairmen have not only been at variance, but have led to the suspicion that there was an undue leaning towards the opinion expressed by the gentlemen in charge of the particular bill under consideration when a question of order has been raised. This would be obviated by electing one man to the position, making him independent of the speaker." Mr Sayers thinks these two changes would result in reducing the current expenditures at least 30 per cent.

Secretary Proctor, who has spent less time in Washington than any member of the cabinet, has gone on a southern jaunt that will last a month.

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Dated Albany, Oregon, March 14, 1891.

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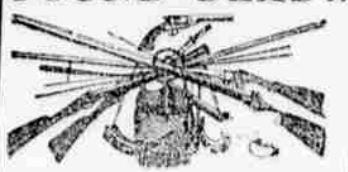
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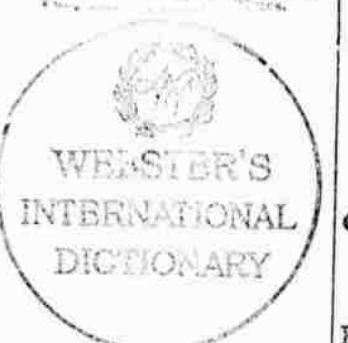
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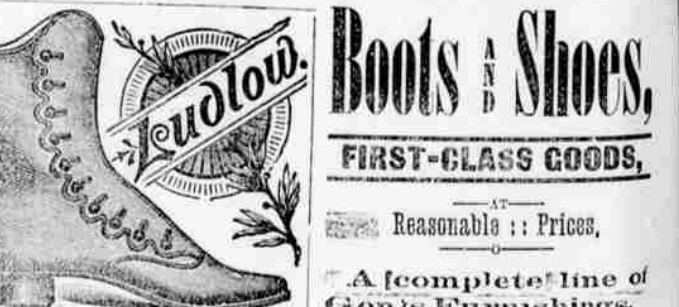
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