

"Governor" Kellogg in his Own Defense.

[From the New York World, Sept. 30.]

With a courtesy to the Louisiana usurper (lately arrived in this city) to which he has no title, we publish his letter attempting to parry an editorial in the *World* of last Friday. That article was founded on an official document printed in a local Louisiana paper—the *Attakapas Register*—and signed by Kellogg's official subordinate, Clinton, the Auditor of the State. The document was a list of delinquent tax-payers for the parish of St. Mary comprising more than a thousand names. We showed from the census that the parish of St. Mary contains but a little more than four thousand white inhabitants, men, women and children, and that the delinquent tax list must therefore contain the name of nearly every tax-payer in the parish. This official notice also contained a threat that the delinquents who did not pay within thirty days should be deprived of access to the courts and the protection of the laws in all civil cases—the most extraordinary and tyrannical method of enforcing the payment of taxes ever heard of in the annals of any government or any pretended government, since governments were instituted or usurped.

Now as this Kellogg, in his unabashed communication to us, does not venture to deny any of these facts, all his pettifogging can in no degree soften the odium in which such a government is held. He asserts that the lists of delinquent tax-payers are made up "entirely" of the names of persons who did not pay their taxes under the Warmoth administration. Taking the parish of St. Mary, to which our former article related as a sample, how comes it that the people have paid this year's taxes when every tax-payer in the parish is on the delinquent list and threatened with civil outlawry? As the taxes due last year, as well as those levied this year, go alike into the Kellogg treasury and furnish means for supporting the Kellogg Government, what motive has induced citizens to pay the new taxes with alacrity and refuse to pay the old ones? It is precisely this state of things which Kellogg declares to exist. The motive for his strange assertion is apparent enough. He has an obvious interest in wishing it believed that his government is more popular than that of his predecessor. It is quite possible that he has adopted the pitiful trick of leaving the old taxes uncollected for awhile as a device for contrasting his popularity with Warmoth's. It would be the duty of a valid State government to collect old and new taxes alike without favoritism or discrimination. Kellogg seems to have forborne the collection of the old taxes as a means of getting payments on those of the present year in the hope of thereby acquiring a spurious proof of popularity. The heavy tax-payers who were two or three years in arrears would easily be persuaded to pay this year's taxes promptly as a means of getting the old ones postponed, and the expedient seems to have had some success.

Kellogg relies for *political* vindication on a batch of recent affidavits concocted by people, who, by their own account of themselves, are a set of graceless, perjured scoundrels. They swear that they were accomplices of Warmoth in perpetrating wholesale election frauds, and their present testimony simply shows that they have brought their confessed villany to a fresh market and have found a new purchaser. The affidavits of confessed perjurers are not to be weighed for a moment against the Senate Committee of Investigation, who, after elaborate inquiry and examination of all the best informed witnesses of both parties, reported against their party prejudices, that the Kellogg Government was conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity. According to their report "the interference of Federal authority" was "the saddest chapter of the whole affair;" that it was "impossible to conceive of a more irregular, illegal, and in every way inexcusable act on the part of the Judge;" but for which interference, the report confessed (and confessed the interference to be "a matter wholly beyond his jurisdiction"), "the McEnery Government would to-day have been the *de facto* government of the State. Judge Durell interposed the army of the United States between the people of Louisiana and the only government which has the semblance of regularity, and the result of this has been to establish the Kellogg so far as that State has now any government;" and the committee confessed that they knew "no language too strong to express their condemnation of such a proceeding."

Carpenter, a member of the committee, though an unscrupulous partisan of Grant, was constrained by the force of facts to denounce the concern in the strongest language. "Why, undoubtedly, Mr. President," said he, in his speech in the Senate, "why, undoubtedly, you may trample any State under foot, and when they see you are determined to do it, when they see your army and navy advancing, when they see the banners of irresistible power unfurled against them, who doubts that they will be quiet? That means that a subjugated people will submit, and it means no more. That reminds one of the order that was sent back from Warsaw to Moscow when Russian paws had been laid upon that city and its liberties had been crushed forever; the military officers sent a dispatch saying 'Order reigns in Warsaw.' Yes, but it was the peace of death which was facetiously called *order*." We willingly admit that Louisiana is subjugated, that she has submitted, is quiet, and the peace of death reigns within her borders.

The negroes and carpet-baggers who have succeeded to the possession of magnificent estates are barely making enough to pay their expenses and taxes. It is not a case of the bottom-rail on top by any means. The entire fence is demolished and lies prostrate.