

Governor Samuel McEnery of Louisiana is much worried because his brother, John McEnery, who also was once governor of the state, or pretended that he was, has been detected in outrageous frauds upon the state, through the connivance of other state officials, of whom the present governor is suspected to be one. McEnery procured the passage of a law by which the state agreed to give him half the lands which he might obtain from the national government for the state as swamp lands. The actual swamp lands obtained in this way were of very trifling value, but McEnery, on filing with the state land officer a certificate that certain lands described had been made over to the state, obtained from that officer in return a certificate which might be located on any lands owned by the state to half the amount of those certified from the United States. By this business the thrifty McEnery, in return for a thousand acres of swamp land worth ten or twelve cents an acre, got five hundred acres worth five or ten dollars an acre, and he got several thousand acres at these rates. The governor explains that John is not to blame for taking advantage of the law, and moreover that he has not made so much by these operations as is supposed, because he had to share his profits with no less a person than Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll, who helped him get the land certificates in Washington, and took the larger part of the avails for his services.