# YESTERDAY IN CONGRESS.

## MR. CARPENTER'S DENUNCIATION OF THE KELLOGG USURPATION.

**How the Lynch Board Manufactured its Election Returns—Judge Durell's Villainous Order—The House Banking Committee Showing their Hands.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Senator Fenton (Rep., N. Y.) presented a petition of bankers, merchants, and other citizens of New York, against any further issue of paper money by the Government, and asking that the present issue of legal tender reserve be withdrawn, &c. He said the high standing of the petitioners, he trusted, would command the earnest attention of the Senate to the memorial. The petition was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Conkling (Rep., N. Y.) introduced a bill amendatory of the National Currency act of June, 1864. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Conkling's bill proposes to add to section 50 provisions that no suit shall be brought against the receiving banks, or any person acting as agent or receiver under any provisions of the National Currency act, for any act or omission to enforce said liability to the holders of said notes, and that a receiver shall be appointed to take one thing. The United States cannot compel the stockholders to contribute, by the statutory liability, to the payment of the debts of the bank, or to the expense of the receivership.

Mr. Morrill (Rep., Vt.) introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to inquire as to the amount of gas consumed and paid for by the Government at Washington, and whether the cost thereof could not be diminished. He said the amount of gas consumed in the Capitol and public grounds was enormous, and the cost thereof was nearly $100,000. The resolution was adopted.

### SECRETARY OF THE REPORTERS' STATIONERY.

The Chair (Mr. Carpenter) asked the attention of the Senate while he might obtain advice. He had received for many days a letter from a gentleman of the press, signed "Reporter," in the gallery of the Senate. He was aware of the fact that he was furnishing stationery to the reporters gallery of the Senate. He had received a letter from a reporter on his table asking for more stationery. He had searched and could not find any law authorizing the President of the Senate to give such orders, but believed it had been the custom. If he had violated the law in so doing he was ready to pay the money himself. He had signed orders for the amount, as he signed them all without an examination.

Mr. Wilson (Rep.) said the Chair read the account of an order for half a ream of paper, 500 envelopes (small), one dozen pens, one for half a ream of foolscap paper, three dozen pencils, half a dozen penholders, two dozen penholders, and half a dozen boxes of blotting paper, ten dozen rubber bands, one for one ream of letter paper, one ream of note paper, two dozen pencil sharpeners, one box of pens, and four dozen erasers.

### GIVE US THE NAMES.

Mr. Morton said upon an examination of the Congressional Directory he found more than twice the number of persons said to be employed among them. The statement made by the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Trumbull) seemed to be a reflection upon the Senate in the matter of furnishing in the stationer for his or their employes. Was there any one in the Senate who had ever authorized any such order? The question was made upon the floor of the Senate, and he (Mr. Morton) was ready to join with any Senator who had ever authorized any such order in the expression of his opinion that it was improper. He had searched and could not find any law authorizing the President of the Senate to give such orders, but believed it had been the custom. If he had violated the law in so doing he was ready to pay the money himself. He had signed orders for the amount, as he signed them all without an examination.

Mr. Wilson (Rep.) said he had been informed by the Sergeant-at-Arms that a messenger had charge of the stationery, and he sent down for the amount of stationery.

Mr. Morrill (Rep., Vt.) said he believed as a matter of office stationery had been furnished the reporters gallery during the past four years. He had received a letter addressed to the Committee on Contingent Expenses with the instructions to inquire when the practice of furnishing stationery began, the cost of such stationery, and whether the practice should continue. He had not acted.

The morning hour having expired, Mr. Ferry (Rep., Mich.) was called to the chair, and Mr. Carpenter addressed the Senate on

### LOUISIANA AFFAIRS.

He said he never reflected on this Louisiana matter but with mingled emotions of sorrow and shame. He read from the speech of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Trumbull) in relation to the report of the committee made last session being no part of the report. In this case, the committee having since been reorganized, and that Mr. Pinchback should be seated on his credentials, he having a prima facie case, he felt very strongly in behalf of Mr. Pinchback and Mr. Kay, and said the credentials of both were signed by Kellogg on the same day. Why was not Mr. Kay seated on a prima facie case last winter, if there was such a case? But all knew why he was not seated. The air was filled with rumors, and the minds of Senators were disturbed by a doubt as to the facts stated in these credentials, as to whether there was any legal Legislature or any legal Government in Louisiana. It was the province of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Hendricks) to investigate the Louisiana matter. He had reported a volume of testimony of 1,000 pages. Every member of the Senate was fully informed of the history of the Kellogg government except the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Morton). Mr. Trumbull disseated on the ground that McEnery should be recognized. Mr. Hill dissented upon another ground, and he (Mr. Carpenter) was regretfully in accord with Mr. Hill. It was entirely too late now to be talking about seating Pinchback on a case when such case had been overcome, and a committee had agreed that there was no legal Government in Louisiana and no legal State Legislature in the session of the 12th of January last. Again the Senator (Mr. Morton) had argued that the testimony was not taken in the Pinchback case; but in the case of Ray the information brought before the Senate was binding upon the Senate. The proceedings were conducted by the power of the Senate and should be conclusive upon the subject. The statement of Mr. Trumbull was again repeated, as if it would throw light upon the subject. The action of the Senator from Illinois was a gross misrepresentation of that gentleman. He was sorry that the gentleman should have allowed himself to be misled by the gentleman from Ohio in regard to the Louisiana case. It was a great prima facie case, at, with its credentials. In one case the Senate had the Legislature, and in the other there was no legal government in Louisiana to elect a Senator. The Republican case of Illinois was not the Republican case of Illinois, and that was the great point of the argument of the gentleman from Illinois, as he thought it had been conceded to sustain his argument. In one case there was a legal Legislature, and in the other there was no legal Legislature, and Congress was bound to take legislation as it was, and to take what was there bound to be taken by the committee to be the Legislature of Louisiana. It was in Louisiana, as shown by the testimony before the committee, and said he was sorry to say it, that the hands of the Senate were tied by the action of the House.

### IN ITS ABSOLUTE NAKEDNESS.

Gentlemen in this chamber have taken their shoulders and their backs and their shoulders and their backs to the wall, and defended the action of the House. [Laughter.] He then discussed the Constitution and the Louisiana case, and argued that the returning board—that it was the returning board—that it was illegal. He (Mr. Morton) had distributed copies of the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the Senate of the United States in May, 1872, where that court was by politics, by its decisions in two cases, and by its decisions in the Kellogg case, in the hands of the Republicans. Before the court had decided one way or the other, he had received for its exercise of jurisdiction, and said that if it should not be found that the court would be found to be illegal. He (Mr. Morton) had distributed copies of the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the Canvassing Board on the election, and were the more never the more satisfied. The members of that board were Democrats, and they voted in different rooms, and they voted in different rooms, and they voted in different rooms