

PAPERS IN THE CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

CONTESTANTS' EXHIBIT A.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 16, 1859.

TO CHARLES L. KRAFFT,
THOMAS BOOZE,
ROBERT L. SETH,
WILLIAM A. WISONG,
GEORGE R. BERRY,

F. C. CROWLEY,
R. A. McALLISTER,
THOMAS M. SMITH.
ROBERT TURNER,
MARCUS DENISON.

GENTLEMEN: We hereby notify you, that we intend to contest the election by virtue of which you have been returned as members of the House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, for the ensuing two years, upon the following grounds:

1. Because one or more of the persons who acted as judges of election on the day of your pretended election, viz.: the first Wednesday of November, 1859, did so without any legal warrant or authority for so doing.

2. Because certain of the judges of election were not fair and independent men, and did not discharge their duties in an upright and impartial manner, but, on the contrary, were active partisans of yours, and subject to the control, and submitted to the dictation of unscrupulous and reckless party organizations: and certain other of the judges, who desired honestly to discharge their duty, were assailed by threats of violence and death, with actual violence and with deadly weapons; were intimidated and compelled to receive, and did receive many fraudulent and illegal votes which were cast for you; were deprived of the power to preserve order and peace by the neglect, refusal to act, and withdrawal of the police of the city, and were finally compelled to relinquish, and did relinquish their places, cease to act as judges, and leave the polls; a part of the clerks of election doing the same.

3. Because the ballots offered for you, and received by the judges in various of the wards of the city, were so contrived and designed as to render a secret vote impossible, and however folded, to give notice of the character of the vote to the ruffians that infested the polls, and thus to make the elector who ventured to vote any ticket save yours, a mark for assault and violence.