

the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Worcester County aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name and affix the seal of the said Circuit Court, this  
 [SEAL.] twenty-second day of November, Anno Domini, eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

GEO. H. RICHARDSON, *Clerk.*

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*To the Honorable the House of Delegates of Maryland:*

The petition of Thomas A Spence, a citizen of Dorchester County, in the State of Maryland, and eligible to be elected to, and qualified, under the provisions of the Constitution of the State, to hold, the office of Circuit Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Maryland, respectfully represents :

That at an election held in the Counties of Worcester, Somerset, and Dorchester, comprising the said Circuit, on Tuesday, the 7th day of November, 1865, for a Circuit Judge for the said Circuit, and other officers, the judges, at the close of the said election in Worcester County, did certify and make returns to his Excellency the Governor of Maryland, that, at the said election, a certain John R. Franklin had 1,029 votes and your petitioner had 633 votes ; and that the judges at the close of said election in Somerset County, did, in like manner, certify and return that the said John R. Franklin had 767 votes, and your petitioner had 923 votes ; and that the judges at the close of said election in Dorchester County, did, also, in like manner, certify and return that the said John R. Franklin had 461 votes and your petitioner had 632 votes. By which certificates and returns, it was made to appear to his Excellency, the Governor, that the said John R. Franklin had received in the counties comprising the said Circuit, 2,257 votes, and that your petitioner received 2,188 votes ; and so, it appearing to his Excellency, the Governor, that the said John R. Franklin had received the largest number of votes, he did issue to him a commission as Circuit Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Maryland. Whereupon, your petitioner, within thirty days after the state of the polls was publicly made known by the said judges of election, to-wit : on the 21st day of November last, gave notice to the said John R. Franklin of the intention of your petitioner to contest his said election.