

Your petitioner now avers and charges that, by the said certificates and returns, and by the conduct of the judges at the said election, he has been greatly wronged, and that, at the said election, he received the largest number of legal votes polled, and was elected Circuit Judge for the said Circuit.

As part of the said charge and averment, he charges and avers that the said John R. Franklin was ineligible to be elected to, and was disqualified to hold the said office, under the provisions of the 4th section of the 1st Article of the Constitution.

And in support of this averment, he respectfully represents, that the General Assembly of Maryland, in pursuance of the 2d section of the said 1st Article of the Constitution did, on the 25th day of March, 1865, pass an act entitled "An Act relating to the Registration of the Voters of the State;" and in pursuance of the provisions and requirements of the said Act, his Excellency, the Governor of Maryland, did appoint William Bratten, Isaac F. Conner, and Peter Truitt, citizens of Worcester County, Officers of Registration for the Second Election District of said County—the election district wherein the said John R. Franklin resided, at the time of the said election, and had resided for years preceding.

That the said officers of registration having taken the oath prescribed in the Constitution, and having subscribed the same in the book of registration for the said district, entered upon the discharge of their official duties, and whilst so acting, the said John R. Franklin did appear before them, and apply to them to be registered as a qualified voter. Your petitioner further represents that, by the said Act, and the 4th section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, the said officers of registration were made and constituted a tribunal, with full and complete power and authority to inquire and ascertain, upon the application of any person before them for registration, if such person had done any of the acts which were declared in said 4th section to be causes of disqualification. And the said officers of registration, being so empowered and required, did, upon the application of the said John R. Franklin for registration, diligently inquire if the said John R. Franklin had done any of the acts declared in said 4th section of the Constitution to be causes of disqualification; and upon such inquiry, did ascertain, determine and adjudge, that the said John R. Franklin had done the acts, or some of them, so as aforesaid, declared causes of disqualification, and did enter of record in the said Book of Registration, as their said ascertainment and judgment, that the said John R. Franklin was