

*effective* this provision of the Constitution disfranchising certain persons or disqualifying them from holding office." Although the Legislature has passed a Registration Law, it has as yet passed no law to carry into effect the provision of the Constitution *disqualifying certain persons from holding office*, and it is settled law in Maryland that such a provision in the Constitution is of no force until the Legislature shall have passed the law which they are directed to enact. This position is clearly established by the decision in the case of *Bandel vs. Isaac*, 13 Md. Rep., 231. At the adoption of the Constitution of 1850, the legal rate of interest was 6 per cent. That Constitution forbade the Legislature to increase it, and declared "that the Legislature should provide by law all necessary forfeitures and penalties against usury." It was insisted that this action itself worked a forfeiture of all usurious contracts, although the Legislature had passed no law on the subject because it was a constitutional declaration that such contracts were discountenanced by the organic law. But the Court of Appeals decided that the Constitution in this respect did not execute itself and that until a law should be passed by the Legislature forfeiting such contracts they remained valid except as to the excess of interest. In the same way we are satisfied in this case, that in the absence of an act of Assembly declaring how such disqualification shall be ascertained and fixed, the latter member of the concluding sentence of section 41, of Article 3, is as inoperative as the first member of the section would have been, had not the Registration law been passed.

But other sections of the Constitution demonstrate this still further. By section 8, Article 1, all persons then in office under former elections or appointments are required to take the new oaths of office, and by section 6, Article 12, all such officers are to continue to hold their offices for the residue of their terms. There is nothing said here as to whether the persons thus serving out their full terms of service shall be *registered voters* or not, and it is not improbable that among such officers may be some who have not been registered. Are they therefore disqualified in the face of the positive direction of the Constitution, that they shall continue to serve? And are all the judgments or other official acts of such persons since the adoption of the Constitution void?

This House may well pause before they can make such a decision, which might render nugatory laws, disturb titles and unseat possessions throughout the State.

But the expression in a law of a purpose with regard to one class of objects is uniformly regarded as an exclusion of such purpose with reference to all others. Sections 6 and 8