

in jail not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

163. Any person who shall falsely make or wilfully deface or destroy any certificate of nomination or nomination paper, or any part thereof, or any letter of withdrawal, or sign any such certificate, nomination or withdrawal paper contrary to the provisions of this act, or forge the name of any person to such certificate of nomination, nomination or withdrawal paper, or file any certificate of nomination, or nomination or withdrawal paper, knowing the same, or any part thereof to be falsely made, or suppress any certificate of nomination, nomination or withdrawal paper, or any part thereof, which has been duly filed, or forge or falsely make the official endorsement on any ballot, or wilfully destroy or deface any ballot, or shall take or remove any ballot outside of the enclosure provided for voting, before the close of the polls, or wilfully delay the delivery of any ballots, shall be punished by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the jail, penitentiary or house of correction not more than two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

To punish defacing of nomination and withdrawal papers.

164. Any public officer upon whom a duty is imposed by this act who shall wilfully neglect to perform such duty, or who shall wilfully perform it in such a way as to hinder the objects of this act, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in jail, penitentiary or house of correction for not more than two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Wilful neglect of duty.

165. Any ballot clerk who shall place his initials upon any ballot, save when about to deliver it to a voter in the polling-room, and any sheriff, deputy sheriff, member of board of police of Baltimore, or any other person whatever, who shall wilfully destroy, conceal or retain any ballots duly prepared for voting, or wilfully break the seals of any package, book or block of ballots, or abstract any ballot therefrom, or have any such ballot, except for the lawful purposes in this article provided, in his possession, or any paper purporting to be an official ballot, before or during an election, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five or more than one thousand dollars, or shall be imprisoned in jail, penitentiary or house of correction for not less than thirty days nor more than two years, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Misdemeanor by officials.

166. The governor shall biennially appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, if in session, and if not in session, by the governor alone, in each and every county of the State, three persons residents in and voters of their respective counties, two of whom shall always be selected from the two leading political parties of the State, one from each of said par-