

indelible pencils and stationery required for such election; and the supervisors of elections of the several counties shall, within the same period prior to every election, make up into sealed packages for each precinct the two registers for said precinct, together with the cards of instruction and the key of the ballot-box for such precinct, having first placed in the ballot-box one of the sealed packages of ballots for said precincts, the specimen ballots, the two poll-books and all blanks, indelible pencils and stationery required for such elections. and shall deliver the said packages and ballot-boxes, properly addressed, to the sheriff of the county, and the said Board of Police Commissioners and sheriff shall, respectively, receipt therefor, and shall deliver or cause the same to be delivered to the judges of election of the respective precincts at or before the opening of the polls on the day of election. The several boards of supervisors shall keep a record of the time when such deliveries are made by them and of the particulars thereof.

55. The judges of election, and each of them, shall have authority to keep the peace, and to cause any person to be arrested for any breach of the peace, or for any breach of the election laws, or any interference with the progress of an election, or of the canvass of the ballots; and it shall be the duty of all officers of the law present to obey the order of any judge of election, and an officer making an arrest by the direction of any judge shall be protected in so doing as fully as if a warrant had been issued to him to make such arrest.

Judges of election to keep the peace.

56. The polling places shall be opened by the judges at six o'clock in the morning in the city of Baltimore, and at eight o'clock in the morning in the counties, and in said city shall be kept open until five o'clock, and in the counties until six o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, at which time the polls shall be closed. If any judge or clerk shall not be present at the expiration of fifteen minutes after the time for opening the polls, the judge or judges present shall fill the place of such absent judge or clerk by appointing in his stead a person of the same political party as the absentee. One of the judges shall administer to such substitute the oath required of the judge or clerk originally appointed. After the opening of the polls no judge or clerk shall absent himself therefrom, until all the ballots cast shall have been counted and the returns completed. If, in case of absolute necessity, any judge or clerk in attendance shall be compelled to absent himself, he shall appoint some fit person of the same political party with

Opening of polling places.