

**Right to vote.**

box and tickets by the judges and clerks of election and the ballot-box shall have been locked, which shall not be again opened until the polls close; all qualified voters of said town offering to vote and whose names appear upon said registration books shall be furnished an official ballot with the initial of one of the judges thereon, after having answered such questions relating to his identity and right to vote as the judges of election may think proper, and repair to one of the booths or compartments provided for voters and mark his ballot with the pencil therein provided and as hereinbefore required, when he shall fold his ticket, without displaying the marks thereon, and return it to one of the judges of election, who shall deposit in the ballot-box; provided, however, that any voter who shall spoil a ballot so he cannot vote it may, on returning said spoiled ballot to the judge holding the ballots, receive another in its stead; and should he spoil the second ballot, he shall, upon returning the same to the officer aforesaid, be entitled to receive a third ballot, which ballot or ballots shall be immediately cancelled by endorsing thereon the word "spoiled," which ballots shall be preserved and included in the election returns. Every voter who does not vote the ballot delivered to him shall, before leaving the polling place, return such ballot to the judge from whom he received it, and said return ballot shall be retained as if said ballot had been spoiled; and no voter shall be allowed over seven minutes in which to vote.

**Spoiling a ballot.**

**Counting the ballot.**

194G. Immediately upon the closing of the polls the judges of election shall proceed to count the ballots, and the counting or canvass thereof shall not be adjourned or postponed until the count or canvass shall have been fully completed, nor until the returns have been announced publicly and the written returns herein provided for fully completed and signed by the judges and clerks of election. In counting the said ballots the said judges of election shall be governed by the manifest intent of the voter, where the same can be ascertained, and a cross (X) mark protruding slightly beyond any square in which the same should be made shall not be sufficient cause to reject any ballot. And no ballots shall be wholly rejected if more candidates under any one head or designation for office shall be voted for than there are offices to be filled, but shall be counted for all other candidates under other heads or designations for whom the same may be properly marked.

**Ballots not to be rejected.**

194H. The judges shall make duplicate statements or returns of the result of the canvass of said votes, each of which