

had been delivered to the judges of election were broken, and upon examination were found to contain not official ballots, but copies of the Local Laws for Calvert county. The evidence shows that the President of the Board of Supervisors had received all the ballots for the said county on Friday, the 31st day of October, 1891, and had, as was his duty, delivered them on the Saturday following to the Sheriff of that county for distribution amongst the different districts, and it appears that the official ballots for the St. Leonard's Precinct, although delivered to the Sheriff, who was a Republican, never reached that locality. Upon this discovery being made, the voters who were at that precinct and ready to vote became greatly excited, and as no election could be held without ballots, many left the polls. How the substitution of the Local Laws for Calvert county was made for the official ballots, and by whom made, the evidence does not disclose, nor is it needful for this enquiry, that we should stop to discuss it. Suffice it that such was the fact. Now begins the second act in this drama, and the one with which we must chiefly deal, as upon the view taken of it, will depend whether the election at the St. Leonard's Precinct was valid or not. This is the issue. When it had been known that there were no official ballots with which to hold an election, two messengers were dispatched to the neighboring election districts, one to Prince Frederick, and one to Solomon's Island or the first precinct of the first district, to obtain ballots. After the lapse of nearly five hours from the time at which the polls should have been opened, and the voting should have commenced, all of which would have occurred but for the absence of the official ballots for that precinct, one of the messengers arrived bringing with him about 1200 ballots, some loose and some in packages, that had been printed for the first precinct. These he obtained from the judges of election of that precinct. It has been shown already that in the mean time many voters had left, believing that no election would be held at that place. When these ballots reached the second precinct the two Democratic Judges of Election decided that no legal election could be held with them, in which view the Republican Supervisor of