

and Third Districts. The First District is divided into two Election Precincts, designated First or Solomon's Island Precinct, and Second or St. Leonards' Precinct. The election in Calvert county outside of said Second Precinct, is admitted to have been in all respects fair and regular. The issues involved between contestant and contestee in this case therefore solely relate to the election held in the Second or St. Leonard's Precinct of First Election District. The election was held under the provisions of the Act of 1890, chapter 538, commonly called the "Australian Ballot Law." By its provisions all voting is on an official printed ballot, which with the most minute detail is described in the law. The President of the Supervisors of Election for the county is required to procure and deliver this official ballot to the sheriff of the county; the latter being required to deliver the same to the Judges of Election in sealed packages on the morning of election. The committee find from the evidence that the Democratic Supervisor of Election did deliver the official ballot in proper sealed packages to the Republican Sheriff of the county, and the said Sheriff on the morning of the election did deliver to the Judges of Election of the said second precinct what purported to be the official ballots for said precinct, but on being opened by said Judges, was found not to be ballots but local laws for the county. The proof does not show how these local laws were substituted for official ballots after the latter reached the Sheriff's hands.

At the second or St. Leonard's Precinct on the morning of the election, awaiting the delivery of the official ballots by the Sheriff, and ready to conduct the election and receive the official ballots, were the officers prescribed by law, all properly qualified; these officers consisted of two Democratic Judges, one Republican Judge, one Democratic Ballot Clerk and one Republican Ballot Clerk. The two Democratic Judges and Ballot Clerk, with their colleagues, at the hour for opening the polls, that hour being 8 A. M., opened the polls, but there being no official ballots present no one voted. At about 12½ P. M. there were brought some, not in sealed packages, but loose, to the Second or St. Leonard's Precinct, official ballots prepared for the First or Solomon's Island Precinct, where a messen-