

Senate bill entitled an Act to prevent the adulteration and to regulate the sale of milk.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Coffin, from a minority of the Committee on Elections, submitted the following report in the contested election case of Bird vs. Talbott:

#### MINORITY REPORT.

*To the Senate of Maryland:*

As a member of the Committee on Elections of the Senate, to which were referred the memorial and papers embodying the contested election case of Samuel R. Bird against Joseph F. Talbott, who was declared elected by the Governor, and became until his recent death, the sitting member from Calvert county. I am unable to concur in the opinions expressed by a majority of said Committee, and therefore beg leave to respectfully submit this statement of my conclusions, in the shape of a minority report.

1st. As to the facts in this case there is little or no controversy and they seem, with one or two immaterial exceptions, to be correctly stated in the report of the Committee. The conclusions arising from these facts, however, leave room for great differences of opinion.

With some of the conclusions of the Committee upon the admitted facts I am unable to agree, and especially with the insidious suggestion contained in the following portion of their report, viz:

“The Committee find from the evidence that the Democratic Supervisor of Elections did deliver the official ballots in proper sealed packages to the Republican Sheriff of the county, and said sheriff on the morning of the election did deliver to the Judges of Election of the 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 the 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.”

In this is contained the assumption and covert charge, that whatever fraud there was in the said