

the Delegates to the General Assembly of Maryland, from Frederick county, which has engaged their anxious and profound attention. The memorialist sets forth the following facts—that in one of the election districts of Frederick county, called the Middletown district—there were thirty-six ballots cast, which were printed in these words.

TARIFF TICKET.

—
FOR GOVERNOR.

THOMAS G. PRATT.

—
FOR THE SENATE.

WILLIAM J. ROSS.

—
WILLIAM COST JOHNSON,

EDWARD BUCKEY,

THOMAS E. D. POOLE,

JOHN F. ELDER,

GEORGE BOWLUS,

Which were rejected by the judges of the election, as *illegal* votes, on the ground that the purpose, for which the names of the candidates for the House of Delegates thus voted, was not clearly and sufficiently designated, there being no other distinction between the name of William J. Ross for the Senate, and the names of the candidates for the House of Delegates, but a short *black line or dash*. The judges of the election believing that the Act of Assembly of 1805, sections 12 and 13, which define how "ballots shall be written or printed," and in what cases "ballots shall be rejected," was not complied with, refused to allow the memorialist the said thirty-six ballots, which if counted, would entitle him to the seat of the sitting member. Your committee are aware of the importance of the elective franchise, and admire the wisdom which distinguished the framers of the Constitution, and the authors of those laws enacted under it, which look to the preservation, in all its purity, of so sacred a privilege. It is perhaps, the keystone to the arch on which the temple of our liberty rests, and may be regarded as the chief, if not sole, safeguard of perpetual freedom. So long as that right remains inviolate, so long