

stated; it is deemed the "security of liberty and the foundation of free government." Article 1, section 1 of the Constitution clearly defines who shall have the right of suffrage: "Every male citizen of the United States of the age of 21 years, or upwards, who has been a resident of the State for one year, and of the Legislative District of Baltimore city, or of the county in which he may offer to vote for six months next preceding the election, shall be entitled to vote in the ward or election district in which he resides, at all elections hereafter to be held in this State." It is alleged that these positive provisions can be evaded by manipulating the provision for elections by ballot. If this were true, what a travesty would the impressive preamble to the Constitution be. This preamble written by an earnest God fearing liberty loving people reads: "We, the people of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof declare." The framers of the Constitution moreover expressly prohibited such evasion of the suffrage clause, and have guarded this sovereign right in no uncertain terms. Section 49, of Article 3, reads: "The General Assembly shall have power to regulate by law *not inconsistent with the Constitution*, all matters which relate to the Judges of Elections, time, place, and manner of holding elections in this State, and of making the terms thereof." That the purpose of the bill is to violate the Constitution and to destroy the most precious right of freemen for political advantage can readily be shown. It is the studied purpose of the framers of the bill to render it impossible for a citizen who cannot read to vote. What justification can be offered for taking away the party emblem? The object is to remove this harmless and necessary aid to the illiterate. Why is it left to the Supervisors of Elections in the several counties and in Baltimore city to juggle with the names of candidates; so that the ballots should not be uniform? It is clearly to render it impossible for the illiterate to learn in advance how to mark his ballot. Why is the ballot withheld from inspection by the Supervisors? Surely for no good purpose. The door, moreover, is left open