

R. E. C. DOWNES,

Church Hill,

Complains of the Proceedings of the Military,
AT THE ELECTION.

Church Hill, Md., Nov. 9th, 1863.

HIS EXCELLENCY,

SIR:—I think it right to inform you (since your last order) of the manner our polls were conducted at the late election. It will be remembered with disgrace till the end of time. About sun up, ten Union cavalry soldiers marched through the town, with arms, &c., to the District Provost-Marshal's grog shop; alighted, and walked in for awhile. They remounted and went over to Mr. Levi Deford's, a Democrat, to feed their horses, breakfast, &c., &c.; they then returned, went up to the polls, and were in and around the window all day till dark, and then returned to Mr. Deford's for the night; (and having damaged his family carriage) they breakfasted and left him the next morning.

The soldier was fined, and Mr. Deford paid for the damage to his carriage. In addition to this, two challengers stood, one on each side of the window, and no ticket was allowed to go in but a Union ticket only, without a challenge; they would not admit a Union ticket with a *name scratched off*. There was