

in the county. On the second and third of November a military force, fully armed, and estimated to number from three to four hundred men, was landed at Chestertown, the county seat, and on the afternoon of the second, the *original* Order, known as order No. 53, issued by the Commander of the Middle Department, was circulated through the county, and bodies of armed men detailed to disarm the citizens. During the morning of the third, the following order was issued by Col. Tevis, the officer in command of the military forces:

“HD. QRS., 3D MARYLAND CAVALRY,  
Chestertown, Nov. 3d, 1863.

Whereas, the President of the United States, in reply to a letter addressed to him by Hon. Thomas Swan, of Baltimore city, has stated that all loyal qualified voters should have a right to vote, it therefore becomes every truly loyal citizen to avail himself of the present opportunity offered to place himself honorably upon the record or poll book at the approaching election, by giving a full and ardent support to the whole Government ticket, upon the platform adopted by the Union League Convention. None other is recognized by the Federal authorities as loyal or worthy of the support of any one who desires the peace and restoration of this Union.

[Signed]

CHARLES CARROLL TEVIS,  
Lt. Colonel Commanding.”

Which order was not rescinded, or any public or general notice given on the fourth, or prior thereto, that it was not in force, and binding upon the voters of the county. On the fourth, the day of the election, the military force before referred to, was distributed at the different polls of the five Election Districts of the county, and these bodies of armed men under the command of their officers, were not only marched within view of the places of holding the election, but during the whole day were stationed within a few feet of the ballot box.

In one of the Election districts, soldiers with drawn sabres were stationed on either side of the ballot box, and the voter