

was compelled to approach the Judges' stand between the files of armed men, and deposit his ballot, if permitted to do so by the officer in command. In one other of the districts the polls were not opened until nearly twelve o'clock, in direct violation of the laws of the State, when many of the voters of the district had returned to their homes. At the polls of four of the districts of the county, a military officer was stationed near the Judges of Election, and challenged and rejected voters in many instances, without referring to the Judges whose right and duty it was to decide upon the legality of such votes. The result of such unprecedented proceedings was that the voters of the county were impressed with the conviction that the election was entirely under the control of the military power of the United States, and that they would not be permitted to vote unless the caprice of the officers in command should sanction it, or they would vote for the candidates indicated by the order of Colonel Tevis.

Your memorialists submit, that the Constitution and laws of the State were openly defied, and the election by the intervention of the military power of the Government, and the course pursued by those in command, utterly null and void. It is needless for your memorialists to refer your Excellency to the Bill of Rights and Constitution of the State of Maryland, which prescribes the qualifications of voters, and the declaration therein contained, "that elections should be free and frequent, and every free white male citizen, having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage."

The Proclamation of your Excellency of the second of November, to the citizens of the State, indicates most clearly the opinions entertained by your Excellency, and your determination to preserve unimpaired the right of suffrage and the freedom of the ballot box. The power is vested by the Constitution of the State in your Excellency to "issue commissions to the different persons for the offices to which they shall have been respectively elected." A power that depends for its exercise upon the fact, that an election has taken place. Whether in fact an election, in accordance with that Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, was held on the fourth of November, is a question