

Statement of Thos. Sudler, &c., & Geo. Davy,

Judge of Election,

OF PROCEEDINGS AT POLLS, OF POTATO NECK DISTRICT, SOMERSET COUNTY,

On November 4, 1863.

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*The Statement of Thomas Sudler relative to the Proceedings at the Election Polls in Potato Neck District, in Somerset County, on the 4th day of November, 1863.*

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I was one of the first at the voting place ; I found the Judges of Election and certain soldiers ; the polls were not then open. I saw the Judges reading a paper, which I ascertained was the "Order No. 53," issued by General Schenck. I then displayed the Proclamation of the Governor of Maryland, which had reached me by express the night previous. The officers in charge of the soldiers asked me to read it, which I did. The Sergeant—the officer mentioned above—then said : "I have orders to enforce General Schenck's Order No. 53." I enquired further of the Sergeant concerning his order ; the Sergeant replied that before he left the camp at Princess Anne, and before the Proclamation had been received by the Captain of the whole body of troops in the camp, he received orders to enforce the Order No. 53—to challenge every voter, to examine all tickets offered, to administer the oath contained in Order 53, and to decline to allow any tickets but the yellow or Creswell ticket to be polled. That after the Proclamation was received at camp, he was ordered to enforce Order No. 53, as it had been modified by the President—to administer the oath—to challenge every man who offered to vote, and to prevent all from voting who presented any but the yellow or Creswell ticket—that he was to examine every ticket.