

any person to poll at the said election, who was not in his judgment qualified to vote under the existing provisions of the Law." This Respondent would further state, that the Election aforesaid was held under and by virtue of the provisions of the New Constitution, which makes it imperative upon the Judges of Election to administer the oath prescribed by the 4th Section of the 1st Article of said instrument, which oath this Respondent cheerfully took himself, and which, from the known loyalty of the Election Judges, he believes was required of every voter of the Circuit. That at said Election there were two party tickets run, that he declined to run as a candidate for such an office upon the Democratic ticket, but allowing his name to be used as an independent candidate before the people of a loyal county for an office, judicial and not political, was by the people of such county duly elected to the same.

The above is the result of an election held in the county of Baltimore, where the purity of the ballot box was protected by all the guards thrown around it by the wisdom and prudence of our Legislators, an election held under the supervision and control of well known loyal men, in a loyal county, and at which election no force and violence is charged.

Having been at such an election elected as Judge, by the legal voters of a loyal county, and so certified and returned by loyal Judges, and commissioned by the Executive of the State, you are asked to declare that I may be declared ineligible to said office, and that the same may, by your act, be bestowed upon another, who failed to receive a majority of legal votes at such an election, and held under such auspices.

Having received notice at the hands of your committee, of the protest against my qualification, it becomes my duty, as well as my pleasure, to respond to the charges relied upon as the ground of my disqualification.

As a man devoted to the integrity of the Government under which we live, and one who is not conscious of having violated in the least the duties of a true and loyal citizen, he denies each and all the charges of disloyalty, and pronounces them untrue.

This Respondent respectfully asks that, through your committee, full opportunity may be given to elicit a full and impartial examination of all the facts, so that the record that may be submitted to this House shall be of such a character as to enable the members thereof to act understandingly and conscientiously upon a matter of such vital interest to an American citizen.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD GRASON.