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odious and more especially offensive and dangerous in view of the known fact that two at least of the five Provost Marshals of the State are themselves candidates for important offices and sundry of their deputies for others.

This military order therefore is not only without justification when looking to the character of the Candidates before the people and rendered still more obnoxious by the means appointed for its execution but is equally offensive to the sensibilities of the people themselves and the authorities of the State looking to the repeated proofs they have furnished of an unalterable devotion to the Government. For more than two years past there has never been a time when if every traitor and every treasonable sympathizer in the State had votes, they could have controlled whoever might have been their candidates a single Department of the State or jeopardized the success of the general government. No State in the Union has been or is now actuated by more heartfelt or unwavering loyalty than Maryland a loyalty intensified and purified by the ordeal through which it has passed and yet looking to what has lately transpired elsewhere and to the terms and character of this military order, one would think that in Maryland and nowhere else is the Government endangered by the many evil disposed persons that are now at large.

Within less than a month the most important elections have taken place in two of the largest States of the Union in each of them the Candidates were before the people charged by the particular friends of the Government with being hostile to its interests and whose election was deprecated as fraught with the most dangerous consequences to its success. One of the most prominent of these Candidates was considered so dangerously inimical to the triumph of the national cause, that he has been for months past banished from the Country and yet hundreds of thousands of voters were allowed to approach the polls and to attempt "to foist" such men into power and no Provost Marshals or other Military officers were ordered to arrest them on the way or so far as we have ever heard even let their allegiance by any oath.

With these facts before us, it is difficult to believe that the suggestion that the enemies of the United States may be foisted into power at our coming election was the consideration that prompted this order, but whatever may have been that motive I feel it to be my duty to solemnly protest against such an intervention with the privileges of the ballot box and so offensive a discrimination against the rights of a loyal State.

I avail myself of the occasion to call to the particular attention of the Judges of the Election the fact that they are on the day of election clothed with all the authority of Conservators of the peace and may summon to their aid any of the Executive officers of the County and the whole power of the County itself to preserve order at the Polls and secure the Constitutional rights of the voter.

It is also made their special duty to give information to the State Attorney for the County of all infractions of the State laws on the subject of elections and by these laws it is forbidden to any commissioned or now commissioned officers or Command of any soldier or soldiers quartered or posted in any District of any County.