Democratic Watchman.

P. GRAY MEEK, - Editor.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 16, 1864.

TERMS.—$2 per year when paid in advance; $2,50 when not paid in advance, and $3,00 when not paid before the expiration of the year.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

GEO. H. PENDLETON,

OF OHIO.

ELECTORS AT LARGE.

ROBERT F. JOHNSON, of Cambria.
RICHARD VAUX, of Philadelphia.

DISTRICT ELECTORS.

1st. Wm. Laughlin,	13th. Paul Leidy,
2d. E. R. Helmbold,	14th. R. Sweinford,
3d. E. P. Dunn,	15th. John Ahl,
4th. T. McCullough,	16th. H. G. Smith,
5th. B. T. Hess,	17th. Thad. Banks,
6th. P. S. Gerhard,	18th. H. Montgomery,
7th. G. P. Lepier,	19th. John M. Irwin,
8th. Michael Seltzer,	20th. J. M. Thompson,
9th. Patrick McEvoy,	21st. Erastus Brown.
10th. T. H. Walker,	22d. James P. Barr,
11th. O. S. Dimmick,	23d. Wm. J. Koontz,
12th. A. B. Dunning,	24th. W. Montgomery.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY NOMINATIONS

FOR CONGRESS,

THEO. WRIGHT, Lock Haven.

FOR SENATORS,

Dr. R. W. CHRISTY, Blair Co.
H. J. WALTERS, Mifflin Co.

FOR ASSEMBLY,

C. T. ALEXANDER, Bellefonte.

FOR COMMISSIONER,

JOHN L. GRAY, Half Moon.

FOR AUDITOR,

J. RISHEL, Gregg Township.

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS.

Meetings of the Democracy will be held at the following times and places. Let every voter turn out.

Unionville, Tuesday evening, Sept. 20th.
Julian Furnace, Wednesday evening, Sept. 21.
Port Matilda, Thursday evening, Sept. 22d.
Waddle's School House, Friday eve. Sept. 23.
Stormstown, Saturday afternoon, Sept. 24th.
Pine Grove, Saturday evening, Sept. 24th.
Boalsburg, Monday evening, Sept. 26th.
Fleisher's School House, Tuesday eve. Sept 27
Madisonburg, Wednesday evening, Sept. 28th.
Woodward, Thursday evening, Sept. 29th.
Union Church, Friday evening, Sept. 30th.
Millheim, Saturday afternoon, Oct. 1st.
Centre Hall, Saturday evening, Oct. 1st.

Milesburg, Thursday evening, Sept. 22d.
Jacksonville, Friday evening, Sept. 23d.
Hublersburg, Saturday afternoon, Sept. 24th.
Howard, Monday evening, Sept. 26th.
Eagleville, Wednesday evening, Sept. 28th.

Eminent speakers will be present to address the people. By order of

W. F. REYNOLDS,
Chairman Dem. County Committee.

It Wont Win.

The Shoddies that do up the editorials for the miscegenation organ up town, seem terribly troubled about the course the Commissioners of this county intend pursuing in regard to the building of a new jail. Already they see the building looming up at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars, which must increase our already burdensome taxes. What wonderful sagacity, or rather what presumption, for these advocates of war and taxes, to suppose that they can induce the tax-payers of this county to believe that a Democratic Board of Commissioners intend increasing the debt of the county one hundred thousand dollars by erecting a jail at this time. Have we not had a full Democratic Board for the last year? have they not had the authority to borrow money and begin the work at any time? have they made any movements towards doing it? *They have not, nor do they intend to.* The people of the county know very well who first agitated the question. They know full well that when we had an Abolition Board of Commissioners the *Central Press* and the leaders of the Abolition party in this town were *all* in favor of building a new jail, because their favorite contractors were out of a job, and wanted another opportunity of filling their pockets at the expense of the people. They are even now in favor of building a jail, and are only waiting to get a majority of the Board of Commissioners to begin the job. This is the secret—*they are fighting for a chance to build it themselves. They want to get their unhallowed paws once more into the county treasury.* But we can tell them they may build their castles in the air and the people will knock them to pieces on the second Tuesday of October. Our candidate for Commissioner, along with the rest of the Democratic ticket is bound to be elected, and they cannot help it. They will have to get up something more plausible than the jail story. That won't win.

The people of the county are too well informed as to who it was that made the first move, they recollect how earnestly Judge Linn urged upon every grand jury for over two years, the necessity of reporting in favor of a new jail, until he at length succeeded in inducing two juries, both of which were *composed of a majority of Abolitionists* to make a favorable report. They recollect the means that were resorted to by the *Abolitionists* of this town to effect the same object, and how they gloried over it when they succeeded. But unfortunately for them we had and still have a Democratic Board of Commissioners, who have the interests of the people at heart, *and do not intend building a jail, unless forced to do so by a decree of the Court.*

If the voting tax-payers of the county want to expend a *hundred thousand dollars* in erecting a new jail at this time, while our county is loaded down with debt, if they *want* their taxes increased in this way, let them vote the Abolition ticket. The election of an Abolition Commissioner will be the first step towards it.

Our Nominees.

The Congressional Conferees that met in Lock Haven on the 9th inst., gave us as candidate for Congress in this district, Theo. Wright, Esq., of Lock Haven. To many of our readers Mr. Wright is no doubt a stranger, while to others he is well and favorably known. Politically he is an honest, open, consistent Democrat—a disciple of the immortal Jefferson—a fearless supporter of the doctrines that made our country what it was before puritan fanatics obtained control of its Administrative department. He comes to us a candidate untarnished with any of those deceptive qualities that cling continually to the man in search of office—fresh from the people, fitted in every respect to be their representative in the Halls of Congress, and if the honest voters, the tax-payers of this district will look to *their* own interests, they will give him a hearty support, regardless of political ties or party affiliations. Unlike the miserable excuse that has been *mis*-representing the people of this district during the last few years in Congress, he is a man of integrity, of ability, of determination and influence, a man that will represent his constituents, and one in whom they can place the most implicit confidence. He has never sought, nor never desired an office, but his pre-eminent qualifications, and high moral character have revealed him to the searching eyes of the people, who have resolved to renovate the executive and legislative departments of the government, and place them in charge of men of honesty, judgment and efficiency.

Our late able and efficient member of Assembly, Mr. C. T. Alexander needs no words of commendation at our hands to recommend him again to the support of *every* voter in Centre county. By his course there during the last session, he has proved to the *people*, the masses of the voters, the tax-payers of the county that he is *their* friend, and that to his care they can confide their interests, feeling assured that he is able and determined to protect them. He has the experience and ability, the honor and integrity to represent us aright, and it is *our duty* to return him to the position he filled with so much credit to himself and honor to his constituents. His re-election is of more importance to the tax-payers of the county than many imagine. Let them look to their *their own* interests and they can but give him a hearty and cordial support. Let his majority be treble that of last year and the people will have no reason to regret it.

In the language of our cotemporary, the *Centre Berichter*, we have for Commissioner "honest John L. Gray, of Half Moon." In the upper end of the county, where Mr. Gray is personally known to every voter, he is universally esteemed for his honesty, integrity and christian bearing. He is an upright, intelligent, enterprising citizen, an "honest old farmer," eminently qualified for the position of County Commissioner, or guardian of the interests, property and funds of the people. In this day of taxation, of bounties and reliefs it is necessary for the safety of tax-payers, that they have honest, competent men as Commissioners, Let them look to it then that Mr. Gray is triumphantly elected. He is the man for the position.

For Auditor we have Col. John Rishel, of Gregg township, a citizen against whom naught can be said, an honest, intelligent, industrious farmer, a splendid business man, qualified in every respect to fill the responsible position for which he has been chosen. No friend of honesty and industry but can vote for him.

Such is the ticket we present to you voters of Centre county. Was ever a more worthy set of candidates presented for your suffrage? They are not political tricksters, seeking for the emoluments and spoils of office, but honest, upright, capable men, each one fitted for the position for which he has been chosen. Can as much be said of the opposition ticket? Not with truth. To work then voters, you have a duty to perform and but a little while to do it in. The ticket that floats at our mast-head to-day is the white man's ticket, the honest laboring man's ticket, the tax-payers ticket, and it will be elected by a triumphant majority. Let the shout go up, we are in the right and must succeed.

——The Abolitionists in this Congressional district are in a terrible stew. Since last Thursday night they have had three different candidates in the field. First they had Billy Armstrong of Williamsport. Billy saw that the Democrats has placed rather a strong man on the track, and before his nomination was made public he withdrew. Next they decided to try an individual named Benson, of Potter county. Well, Benson looked at matters in about the same light that Armstong did, and concluded Wright was most too popular a man to attempt to defeat, and he withdrew too. Now, reports say, they have settled on Wilson, of Tioga county—a man without brains, without character, with nothing *at all* to recommend him to the support of the people but a "bull-headed" determination to run for Congress. And so the matter stands. A few individuals in Tioga county have whipped the balance of the district into the support of their "independent" candidate. The honest portion of the Republican party can support him if they have a mind to. All we have to say about it is, *they* have not much independence if they permit a faction of men in Tioga county to control the district.

Our Reasons.

In placing the name of Geo. B. McClellan at our mast head to day as candidate for the highest office in the gift of the people, it may not be amiss to give some explanation to those of our readers who see as we see and feel as we feel, politically. It is well known to every reader of the *Watchman* that Gen. McClellan was not our first, our second or our third choice as standard bearer in the coming campaign. In fact we hoped that the "policy" of nominating a military man would be entirely ignored by the Chicago Convention, and that it would give us a civilian, a citizen statesman, one whose voice had never been heard in support of this wicked, this unjustificable crusade and whose hand had never been raised to smite the American that claimed the right of self government—the citizen that stood by the sovereignty of the State—as nominee for President; but our hopes were disappointed. That Convention, composed in part of some of the greatest statesmen the North can boast of, deemed it best for our country and for the party to make the choice they did. And perhaps they were right. Future events must tell whether they were or not. Be that as it may, we read in the booming of the cannon, in the ringing of the bells, in the shouts of the people, that the masses were willing to accept and support their choice, and in the platform laid down by that Convention we could see one thing distinct above all others—a fervent desire for peace—a determination to close this brutal, bloody butchery on terms, alike honorable to both sections, without further bloodshed—an offering of the olive branch without the sword, and *upon it* we felt willing to give a hearty, an earnest and enthusiastic support to the nominee. With this feeling and determination we awaited Gen. McClellan's letter accepting the nomination. It came, and in it, we are free to confess *we* could see but little to strengthen *our* former opinion of his fitness for the position, but much to awaken in *our* breast a feeling of opposition towards him. But what would it effect? *Under the circumstances, every vote withheld from McClellan would be a ballot in favor of Lincoln.* And who in the name of Heaven would see our country cursed with four more years of his detestable thieving, tyrannical administration? Here then was our only choice for the present. McClellan with the *hope* that he will do better than we may think he will, or a tacit support to Lincoln with a *knowledge* of his imbecility, his infamy and determination to overthrow our Republic and its institutions; for say what we please, the contest is now between these two, it is the one or the other for President. They are the chosen leaders in the present contest, and between them we must choose. If our Convention made a mistake in its choice, *we* can see no way of mending the mistake at this date in the campaign. It can only serve as another lesson to those who would cling to "policy" at the sacrifice of principle. With McClellan there will be *some* hope of our country, with Lincoln we *know* there is none. On this ground we will make our fight. *We do not raise his name then because his political opinions, so far as expressed, coincide with ours*, or because his record would recommend him to *our* support, but for the simple reason that the *force of circumstances* has compelled us to choose between the two men, and we naturally cling to the one in which we can place *some* hope. This is our position, these are our reasons, and in our humble sphere we shall do all in our power to prevent the re-election of Abraham Lincoln, although the candidate opposed to him *is not the man of our choice, or the representative of our feelings, as we understand him.*

——The only hope of the Abolitionists is in a division of the Democratic party. They know that they cannot succeed with the party united, and they are making the most strenuous efforts to create dissension and discord within its ranks. But their efforts will prove futile, and their attempts vain. The Democrats *know what they are about*—they learned a lesson in 1860, and have profited by it. Let Abolitionists beware, there are more ways than one of accomplishing an object. *The Democrats are now and will be united.*

——We would call the especial attention of every reader of the WATCHMAN, to the law regulating the soldiers vote, published elsewhere in to-day's paper. There are provisions in it which must be attended to by those at home, or many a voter in the army will be prevented from exercising the right of suffrage. See to it immediately, that every friend you have in the service is assessed and his taxes paid. Give the Abolitionists no chance to chisel us out of votes on this account.

ARE YOU ASSESSED?—It is but a short time until the election and perhaps you are not assessed. Do not wait a day longer, but go at once to your assessor and *see* that your name is on the list. Look also for the name of your neighbor, that you know will vote with you, if it is not there, have it placed on the books *immediately*. Let us lose no votes on account of negligence.

——One more effort on the part of every Democrat and Abolitionism is killed. If they are beaten in October it will be their last fight. Even the "sweet scent of the nigger" will not be able to make them attempt another. Let the blow be struck then that will end forever their puritanical cantings, and stop for all time their robbing, taxing and murdering the people.

The Shoe begins to Pinch.

It is somewhat amusing to find an article in the Shoddy organ up town complaining of the "enormous taxation" which are the fruits of debts contracted by the authorities of this county, as a consequence of this "ungodly and inhuman war." We are both surprised and amused to find loyal shoddy George or those who edit his paper, complain of heavy taxes, and then call this an "ungodly, inhuman and devilish war." This kind of language and complainings would be enough for some violent "copperhead," some "enemy of the government," some "vile traitor" like ourself to use, and we wonder very much at its being allowed to appear in the columns of that "loyal" sheet. But perhaps there is some excuse, may be the shoe pinches, does it? The tax collector is knocking at your door, is he George? Well all the consolation we can give you, is to hand over what you made when quartermaster, and the little you have accumulated by years of toil without grumbling. This is the result of your own teachings, and we allow it to you. When we had peace you were not satisfied but cried for war; you got it; your party inaugurated it; among you, you have robbed the treasury of millions of the peoples' money—*stole* it, and in this way piled up the debt and made these heavy taxes necessary to pay a part, merely, of the accumulating interest. You should be the last man to complain of taxes George. Did you not get a part of the profits of the Lincoln Dynasty? Could you not *steal* enough when in office, like other shoddies, to make you independent? Rumor says you were good at the business, and we *know* you had opportunity and believe you improved it. Why this ingratitude? Don't for goodness sake, kick over the traces in this moment of your party's peril; remember your master, he will lash your back. You are "loyal" and "loyalty" won't permit people to complain about "enormous taxation" under Lincoln's rule. Be careful then, George, or you'll not get another chance at the crib; be cool, calm your nerves, this is only a foretaste of what is to come. Add three million of dollars per day, to the public debt, until this time next year, and tell us, what your taxes will be *then*. That is what your nigger crusade is costing. Ain't it glorious to contemplate? But in earnest, George, why do you complain? You want to be elevated to a social and political equality with Sambo and Dinah, and you know it cannot be accomplished without some cost, therefore, you should not grumble when asked to bear your share. Be patient, be loyal, negro equality will repay you for high taxes. That should be enough.

How they Lie.

We have time and again charged the Abolition disunion party with being the most base, unscrupulous, contemptible, falsifiers that were ever permitted to enjoy the blessings of a free government. They lie by wholesale and retail in big things and little things, in their churches and out of them, in their papers and books, in their sermons and speeches, at all times, at all places, and under all circumstances. Witness the following, the substance of an item which has been going the rounds of the Abolition press and which we find incorporated in an editorial in the last issue of the miscegenation organ in this place.

"It will be borne in mind that the political movements of the "states-rights"-pro-slavery-secession party, known as Copperheads, produced events which are full of significance from the day they took up the Presidendtial question. Without going into detail, however, we will merely say that the greatest of these was the changing of the day for holding their Sectional Convention from the glorious 4th of July to the 29th of August, which is the birth-day of the traitor Benedict Arnold in the days of the Revolution."

Now the poor, miserable, craven puppy that penned the above knew that he was writing down a LIE. He knew, as every school boy in the country must know that Benedict Arnold was born at Norwich, Connecticut, *on the 3d day of January*, 1740, and yet, to bring the followers of Jefferson, of Jackson and Buchanan into disrepute, to bring reproach upon those who are struggling to save the *life* of the Republic, this contemptible, cowardly leaguer, whose heart is black with the same treason that burned in Arnold's without a tithe of the brains or bravery he possessed, prostitutes his paper and publishes for *truth* such infamous, barefaced lies. It is but a sample of what the readers of Abolition newspapers peruse weekly. It is not only in this but in every thing else they lie. They live by it, their party lives by it, and without lying it would not exist an hour.

——Let freemen remember that every vote cast for the Abolition ticket in October is a ballot in favor of Abe Lincoln with his high taxes, drafts and nigger war.

AN ACT TO REGULATE ELECTIONS BY SOLDIERS IN ACTUAL MILITARY SERVICE.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That whenever any of the qualified electors of this commonwealth shall be in any actual military service, under a requisition from the President of the United States, or by the authority of this commonwealth, and as such absent from their place of residence, on the days appointed by law for holding the general or presidential elections within this State, or on the days for holding special elections, to fill vacancies, such electors shall be entitled, at such times, to exercise the right of suffrage, as fully as if they were present at their usual places of elections, in the manner hereinafter prescribed, and whether, at the time of voting, such electors shall be within the limits of this state, or not; and the right of voting shall not be affected in any manner, by the fact of the voter having been credited to any other locality than the place of his actual residence, by reason of the payment to him of local bounty by such other locality.

SEC. 2. A poll shall be opened in each company, regiment, in whole or in part, of Pennsylvania soldiers, at the quarters of the captain, or other officer thereof, and all electors, belonging to such company, who shall be within one mile of such quarters, on the day of election, and not prevented by orders of their commanders, or proximity of the enemy, from returning to their company quarters, shall vote at such poll, and at no other place; officers, other than those of a company, and other voters, detached and absent from their companies, or in any military or naval hospital, or in any vessel, or navy yard, may vote at such other polls as may be convenient for them; and when there shall be ten, or more, voters, at any place, who shall be unable to attend any company poll, or their proper place of election, as aforesaid, the electors present may open a poll, at such place as they may select, and certify in the poll-book, which shall be a record of the proceedings at said election, substantially, in manner and form, as hereinafter directed.

SEC. 3. The polls shall be opened as early as practicable on said day, and remain open at least three hours, and, if necessary, in the opinion of the judges of election, in order to receive the votes of all the electors, they may keep the polls open until seven o'clock in the afternoon of said day; proclamation thereof shall be made at, or before, the opening of the polls, and one hour before closing them.

SEC. 4. Before opening the poll, on the day of election, the electors present, at each of the places aforesaid, shall elect, *viva voce*, three persons, present at the time, and having the qualifications of electors, for the judges of said election, and the judges so elected, shall then appoint two of the persons present, who shall be qualified, to act as clerks of said election; and the judges shall prepare boxes, or other receptacles, for the ballots.

SEC. 5. Before any votes shall be received, said judges and clerks shall each take an oath, or affirmation, that he will perform the duties of judge or clerk, as the case may be, of said election, according to law, and to the best of his abilities, and that he will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit or abuse, in conducting the same, which oath, or affirmation, any of the said judges, or clerks, so elected, or appointed, may administer to each other; and the same shall be in writing, or partly written and partly printed, and signed by said judges and clerks, and certified to by the party administering the same, and attached to, or entered upon, the poll book, and there signed and certified, as aforesaid.

SEC. 6. All elections shall be by ballot, and the judges of elections may, and upon challenge of any voter, shall examine, under oath, or affirmation, the applicant to vote, (which oath, or affirmation, any of said judges may administer,) in respect to his right to vote, and his qualifications to vote in the particular ward, precinct, city, borough, township, or county of this state, in which he claims residence; and before receiving any vote, the judges, or a majority of them, shall be satisfied, that such applicant is a qualified voter of such place.

SEC. 7. Separate poll-books shall be kept, and separate returns made, for the voters of each city, or county; the poll-books shall name the company and regiment, and the place, post, or hospital, in which such election is held; the county and township, city, borough, ward, precinct, or election district of each voter shall be endorsed opposite his name on the poll-books; each clerk shall keep one of said poll-books, so that there may be a double list of voters.

SEC. 8 Each ticket shall have written or printed, or partly written and party printed thereon, the names of all the officers which may properly be voted for, at said election, for which the said elector desires to vote.

SEC. 9. That the judges, to whom any ticket shall be delivered, shall, upon the receipt thereof, pronounce with an audible voice the name of the elector, and if no objection is made to him, and the judges are satisfied that said elector is a citizen of the United States, and legally entitled, according to the constitution and laws of this State, to vote at said election, shall immediately put said ticket in the box, or other receptacle therefor, without inspecting the names of persons voted for; and the clerks shall enter the name of the elector on the poll-book of his county, ward, precinct, city, borough or township, and county of his residence, substantially, in pursuance of the form hereinafter given.

SEC. 10. At the close of the polls, the number of voters shall be counted and set down at the list of voters, and certified and signed by the judges, and attested by the clerks.

SEC. 11. After the poll-books are signed, the ballot-box shall be opened, and the tickets, therein contained, shall be taken out, one at a time, by one of the judges, who shall read distinctly, while the ticket remains in his hand, the name, or names, therein contained, for the several officers voted for, and then deliver it to the second judge, who shall examine the same, and pass it to the third judge, who shall string the vote for each county upon a separate thread, and carefully preserve the same; the same method shall be pursued, as to each ticket taken out, until all the votes are counted.

SEC. 12. Whenever two or more tickets shall be found deceitfully folded, or rolled together, neither of such tickets shall be counted; and if a ticket shall contain more than the proper number of names, for the same office, it shall be considered fraudulent, as to all the names designated for that office, but no further.

SEC. 13. As a check in counting, each clerk shall keep a tally list for each county from which votes shall have been received, which tally list shall constitute a part of the poll book.

SEC. 14. After the examination of the tickets shall be completed, the number of votes for each person, in the county poll books as aforesaid, shall be enumerated, under the inspection of the judges, and set down as hereinafter provided, in the form of the poll-book.

SEC. 15. The following shall substantially be the form of the poll-books, to be kept by the judges and clerks of the election, filling in the blanks carefully:

Poll book of the election held on the second Tuesday of October, one thousand eight hundred and , (or other election day, as the case may be,) by the qualified electors of county, (or city,) state of Pennsylvania, in company , of the regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers, (or as they case may be,) held at (naming the place, post, or hospital,) A B, C D and E F, being duly elected as judges of said election, and J K and L M, being duly appointed as clerks of said election, were severally sworn, or affirmed, as per certificates herewith returned.

Number and names of the electors voting, and their county, city, borough, township, ward, or precinct, of residence:

No. 1, A B, county of , township of
No. 2, C D, county of , township of

It is hereby certified that the number of electors county, Pennsylvania, voting at this election amounts to

A B,
C D,
E F,
Judges of Election.

Attest,
J K,
L M, Clerks.

Form of certificate of oath of judges and clerks:

We, A B, C D and E F, judges of this election, and J K and L M, clerks thereof, do each severally swear, (or affirm,) that we will duly perform the duties of judges and clerks of said election, severally acting as above set forth, according to law, and to the best of our abilities, and that we will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit, or abuse, in conducting the same.

A B,
C D,
E F,
Judges.

J K,
L M, Clerks.

I hereby certify that C D, E F, judges, and J K and L M, clerks, were, before proceeding to take any votes at said election, first duly sworn, day of , Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and

A B, Judge of election.

I certify that A B, judge aforesaid, was also sworn, or affirmed, by me. Witness my hand the date before written.

J K, Clerk of election.

SEC. 16. A return, in writing, shall be made in each poll-book, setting forth in words, at length, the whole number of ballots cast for each office, (except ballots rejected,) the name of each person voted for, and the number of votes given to each person, for each different office; which return shall be certified as correct, signed by the judges and attested by the clerks. Such return shall be substantially as follows:

At an election held by the electors of company , of the regiment of Pennsylvania soldiers, (naming the place where the election is held) there were (naming the number in words at length) votes cast for the office of governor, of which A B had votes, C D had votes, for senator, votes were cast, of which E F had votes, G H had votes, I M had votes; cast in the same manner, and for any other offices voted for.

At the end of the return, the judges shall certify, in substance, as follows, giving if officers, their rank and number of their regiment and company, viz:

A true return of the election, held as aforesaid, on the day of Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and

A B, Captain company A, one hundred and thirty-first regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers.
C D, company B, one hundred and thirty-first regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers.
E F, company A, one hundred and thirty-first regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers.

Attest, Judge of election.
J K,
L M, Clerks.

SEC. 17. After canvassing the votes, in manner aforesaid, the judges shall put, in an envelope, one of the poll-books; with its tally list, and return to each city, or county, together with the tickets, and transmit the same, properly sealed up, and directed, through the nearest post office or by express, as soon as possible thereafter, to prothonotary of the court of common pleas of the city; or county, in which such electors would have voted, if not in the military service aforesaid, (being the city or county for which the poll book was kept,) and the other poll-book of said city, or county, enclosed in an envelope, and properly directed, shall be delivered to one of the commissioners, hereinafter provided for, if such commissioner calls for the same in ten days, and if not so called for, the same shall be transmitted by mail, or by express, as soon as possible thereafter, to the secretary of the commonwealth, who shall carefully preserve the same, and on demand of the proper prothonotary, deliver to said prothonotary, deliver to said prothonotary, under his hand and official seal, a certified copy of the return of votes, so transmitted to, and received by him, for said city, or county, of which the demandant is prothonotary.

SEC. 19. The return judges, of the several counties, shall adjourn to meet at the places, now directed by law, on the third Friday, after any general or presidential election, for the purpose of counting the soldiers' vote; and when two or more counties are connected in the election, the meeting of the judges, for each county, shall be postponed, in such case, until the Friday following.

SEC. 20. The return judges, so met, shall include, in their enumeration, the voters so returned, and thereupon shall proceed, in all respects, in the like manner as is provided by law, in cases where all the votes shall have been given at the usual place of election. *Provided*, That the several courts of this commonwealth shall have the same power and authority to investigate and determine, all questions of fraud or illegality in relation to the voting of the soldiers, as are now vested in said courts, with regard to questions of fraud and illegality, arising from the voting of persons, not in military service, under the present laws relating thereto.

SEC. 21. In elections for electors of president and vice president of the United States, it shall be the duty of the secretary of the commonwealth, to lay before the governor all the returns received by him, from any election, as aforesaid, who shall compare the same with the county returns, and add thereto all such returns as shall appear, on such comparison, not to be contained in said county returns, in every case, where said military returns, for such counties, shall have been received by said secretary, at a period too late for transmitting them to the proper prothonotary, in time for the action of the judges of the said counties.

SEC. 22. All said elections shall be subject to contest, in the same manner as is now provided by law; and in all cases of contested elections, all legal returns, which shall have been *bona fide* forwarded by said judges, in the manner hereinbefore prescribed, shall be counted and estimated, although the same may not have arrived, or been received by the proper officers, to be counted and estimated, in the manner hereinbefore directed, before issuing the certificates of election to the persons appearing to have a majority of the votes then received, and the said returns shall be subject to all such objections, as other returns are liable to, when received in due time.

SEC. 23. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the Commonwealth to cause to be printed a sufficient number of copies of this act, with such extracts from the general election law, as shall be deemed important to accompany the same, and blank forms of poll-books, with tally lists and returns, as prescribed in this act, which, with the necessary postage stamps, to defray expenses and postage on returns, shall, in sufficient time, before any such election, be forwarded, by said secretary, at the expense of the Commonwealth, by Commissioners, or otherwise, as shall be deemed most certain to insure delivery thereof, to the captain, or commanding officer, of each company, or in case of detatched voters, to the officer having charge of the post, or hospital who shall retain the same until the day of election, and then deliver the same to the judges elected, as provided in this act: *Provided*, That no election shall be invalidated, by reason of the neglect, or failure, of the said secretary to cause the delivery of said poll-books to the proper persons, as aforesaid.

SEC. 24. That for the purpose of more effectually carrying out the provisions of this act, the governor shall have power to appoint and commission, under the great seal of the commonwealth, such number of commissioners having the qualifications of an elector, in this state, as he shall deem necessary, not exceeding one to each regiment of Pennsylvania soldiers, in the service of this state, or of the United States, and shall apportion the work among the commissioners, and supply such vacancies as may occur in their number. Such commissioners, before they act, shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation, and cause the same to be filed with the secretary of the Commonwealth, to the following:

"I——appointed commissioner, under the act to regulate elections by soldiers in actual military service, do solemnly swear, (or affirm,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and impartially, fully and without reference to political preferences, or results, perform, to the best of my knowledge and ability, the duties imposed on me by the said act; and that I will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit and abuse, not only, in the elections to be held, under the same, but in the returns thereof." And if any commissioner, appointed by, or under, this act, shall knowingly violate his duty, or knowingly omit, or fail, to do his duty, under this act, or violate any part of his oath, or affirmation, he shall be liable to an indictment for perjury; in the proper county, and upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine, not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisonment in the penitentiary, at labor not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 25. It shall be the duty of such commissioners to deliver, as practicable, at least four of the copies of this act, and other extracts of laws, published as hereinbefore directed, and at least two blank forms of poll books, tally lists and returns, entrusted to them, as mentioned in the twenty-third section of this act, to the commanding officers of every company, or part of company, of Pennsylvania soldiers, in the actual military, or naval service of the United States, or of this state, and to make suitable arrangements and provision for the opening of polls, under this act; it shall also be the duty of said commissioners, as soon as practicable, after the day of election to call upon the judges of the election, and procure one poll book, containing the returns of the election, and safely to preserve the same, not only from loss, but from alteration and deliver the same, without delay, to the secretary of the commonwealth.

SEC. 26. Said commissioners shall receive in full compensation for their services under this act, ten cents per mile, in going too and returning from their respective regiments, estimating the distance of traveled route, and it is hereby made the duty of the auditor general and state treasurer to audit and pay the accounts therefor in the same manner as other claims are now audited and paid, by law; all commanding and other officers are requested to aid the commissioners, herein appointed, and to give them all proper facilities, to enable them to carry out the design and intention of this act.

SEC. 27. No mere informality in the manner of carrying out, or executing any of the provisions of this act, shall invalidate any election held under the same, or authorise the return thereof, to be rejected or set aside, nor shall any failure, on the part of the commissioners, to reach or visit any regiment or company, or part of company, or the failure of any company to vote, invalidate any election which may be held under this act.

SEC. 28. The several officers, authorised to conduct such elections, shall have the like powers, and they, as well as other persons, who may attend, vote or offer to vote, at such election, shall be subject to the like penalties and restrictions as are declared and provided in the case of the usual election; and all of the provisions of the general election laws of this state, so far as applicable, and not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are supplied thereby, shall apply to all elections held under this act.

SEC. 29. No commission shall be allowed to any judge or clerk, under this act.

SEC. 30. When the sheriff of any city or county shall have his commission for an election, for a presidential, congressional, district, city, county or State election, under the laws of this state, he shall transmit, immediately, copies thereof, to the field officers and senior captains in the service, aforesaid from said city or county.

SEC. 31. The sum of fifteen thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated from the general revenue, to be paid upon the order of the secretary of the commonwealth, to carry this law into effect.

SEC. 32. When any of the electors mentioned in the first section of this act, less than ten in number, shall be members of companies of another state or territory, or, for any sufficient and legal cause, shall be separated from their proper company, or shall be in any hospital, navy yard, vessel, or on recruiting, provost, or other duty, whether within or without this State, under such circumstances as shall render it probable that he, or they, will be unable to rejoin their proper company, or to be present at his proper place of election, on or before the day of elections, therein mentioned, said elector, or electors, shall have a right to vote in the following manner.

SEC. 33. The voter aforesaid, is hereby authorised, before the day of election, to deposit his ballot, or ballots, properly folded, as required by the general election laws of this state, or otherwise, as the voter may choose, in a sealed envelope, together with a written or printed envelope, together with a written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, statement, containing the name of the voter, the county, township, borough or ward, of which he is a resident, and a written or printed authority, to some qualified voter in the election district, of which said voter is a resident, to cast the ballots, contained in said envelope, for him, on the day of said election. Said statement and authority to be signed by the said voter, and attested by the commanding, or some commissioned officer of the company of which he is a member, in the case of a private, and of some commissioned officer of the regiment, in the case of an officer, if any of such officers are conveniently accessible, and if otherwise, then by some other witness; and there shall also accompany said ballots, an affidavit of said voter, taken before some one of the officers aforesaid, and in the absence of such officers, before some other person duly authorized to administer oaths, by any law of this state, that he is a qualified voter in the election district in which he proposes to vote, that he is in the actual military service of the United States, or of this state, describing the organization to which it belongs, that he has not sent his ballots to any other person or persons, than the one in such authority mentioned, that he will not offer to vote as any poll, which may be opened on said election day, at any place whatsoever, and that he is not a deserter, and has not been dishonorably dismissed from service, and that he is now stationed at in the state of . Said sealed envelope, containing the ballots, statement, authority and affidavit as aforesaid, to be sent to the proper person, by mail or otherwise, having written or printed on the outside, across the sealed part thereof, the words "soldiers ballot for twp., (borough or word,) in the county of ."

SEC. 34 The elector, to whom such ballot shall be sent, shall, on the day of election, and whilst the polls of the proper district are open, deliver the envelope, so received, unopened, to the proper election officer, who shall open the same, in the presence of the election board, and deposit the ballots therein contained, together with the envelope, and accompanying papers, as other ballots are deposited, and said board shall count and canvass the same in the same manner as other votes cast at said election: and the person delivering the same may, on the demand of any elector, be compelled to testify, on oath, that the envelope, so delivered by him, is in the same state as when received by him, and that the same has not been opened, or the contents thereof changed or altered, in any way by him, or any other person.

SEC. 35. The right of any person, thus offering to vote, at any such election, may be challenged, for the same causes, that it could be challenged, if he were personally present, and for no other reason or cause.

SEC. 36. Any officer of any general, or special election in this state, who shall refuse to receive any such envelope, and deposit any such ballots, or to count and canvass the same, and any elector who shall receive such envelope, and neglect or refuse to present the same, to the officers of the election district, endorsed on the said envelope, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment, in the state prison, not exceeding one year, and by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or either, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 37. Any person, who shall wilfully and corruptly make and subscribe and false affidavit, or make any false oath, touching any matter or thing provided in this act, shall be deemed guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, not exceeding five years, and by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by either, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 38. That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the commonwealth to prepare the necessary blank forms, to carry out the provisions of this act, and to furnish the same for the use of the persons so engaged in the military service aforesaid,

SEC. 39. In case any qualified elector, in military service aforesaid, may be in any hospital, military or naval, or in any vessel, or a navy yard, the statements and affidavits, in this act mentioned, may be witnessed by, and made before, any officer of the vessel, navy yard or other place, in which said voter is, for the time being, engaged.

SEC. 40. It shall be the duty of every assessor, within this commonwealth, annually, to assess and return, in the manner now required by law, a county tax, of ten cents, upon each and every non-commissioned officer and private, and the usual taxes upon every commissioned officer, known by them to be in the military service of the United States, or of this state, in the army and when any omission shall occur, the omitted names shall be added, by such assessors, to the assessments and lists of voters, on the application of any citizen of the election district, or precinct, wherein such soldier might, or would have a right to vote, if not in such service, as aforesaid; and such non-commissioned officers, and privates, shall be exempt from all other personal taxes, during their continuance in such service; and said assessors shall, in each and every case, of such assessed soldiers, or officers, without fee, or reward, therefor, give a certificate of such regular, or additional, assessment, to any citizen of the election district, or precinct, who may at any time, demand the same; and upon presentation thereof, to the tax collector of said district, or the treasurer of the said county, it shall be the duty of such officer to receive said assessed tax, of, and from, any person offering to pay the same, for the soldier or officer therein named, and to endorse, upon such certificate, a receipt therefor; and it shall also be the duty of said collector, or county treasurer, to receive said assessed tax, from any person who may offer to pay the same, for any of said officers, or soldiers, without requiring a certificate of assessment, when the name of such persons shall have been duly entered upon the assessment books, and tax duplicates, and give a receipt therefor, to such persons, specially stating, therein the name of the soldier, or officer, whose tax if thus paid, the year for which it was assessed; and the date of the payment thereof; which said certificate and receipt, or receipt, only, shall be *prima facie* evidence, to any election board, provided for by this act, before which the same may be offered, of the due assessment of said tax, against, and the payment thereof by, the soldier, or officer, therein named, offering the same, as aforesaid; but said election board shall not be thereby precluded from requiring other proof, of the right to vote, as specified by this act, or the general election laws of this commonwealth, and if any of said assessors, collectors, or treasurers, shall neglect, or refuse, to comply with the provisions of this section or to perform any of the duties, therein enjoined upon them, or either of them, he, or they, so offending, shall be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor in office, and shall on conviction, be fined, in any sum not less than twenty, nor