

STATEMENT OF JOS. A. PHILLIPS,

Judge of Election in the 1st District of Somerset County.

Statement of Joseph A. Phillips, one of the Judges of Election in the Barren Creek, No. 1, Election District in Somerset County, Nov. 4, 1863.

I am one of the Judges of Election of said District, reached the voting place a little before 9 o'clock, A. M. and found a squad of Cavalry on the ground; I was handed the Governor's Proclamation and the Order of Gen. Schenck, and there was a good deal of discussion about what I was to do as Judge; I finally resolved to admit all to vote without swearing unless objected to. During the day Jos. Wright, one of our own citizens, challenged a number of voters on the ground of disloyalty, and to all such the oath prescribed by Gen. Schenck was tendered; those who took the oath were allowed to vote—those who did not were turned down and not allowed to vote. I remember the following persons who were qualified voters who were turned down for that reason—Ralph Rowe, Robert Langsdale, John Wright, Elias W. Taylor, John Hughes, Joseph Bralton, Josephus Venables, Elijah Hatton, Isaac K. Wright, Jno. Bradley and Lambert H. Cooper, and perhaps others. The soldiers being round the polls all day but did not specially interfere. We took about 180 votes; the full vote of the district is between 230 and 240 votes. There were many voters present who did not offer to vote because they feared they would be required to take the said oath.

JOSEPH A. PHILLIPS.