

If the Governor is to be justified in the orders he says he has given, then the right of our people to "a well regulated militia, as the proper and natural defence of a free government," and the statute laws of the State, are all to give way and be disregarded whenever the Governor "becomes satisfied," and so orders.—Yield in this matter to the Governor, and he becomes a military despot, and the citizens of Maryland an enslaved people.

The Governor says, also, in his message, that he "cannot acknowledge any right on the part of the Senate to make such inquiries." If the Governor be right in assuming this position, which your Committee utterly deny, it follows as a necessary consequence, that the Governor of the State of Maryland can violate all the statute laws of the State, and there is no power in the State to question his authority or stay his hand.

Your Committee are of opinion that this is the first time in the history of Maryland, that such powers have been claimed by any Executive officer of the State, and that it is the imperative duty of the Legislature to make a direct issue with the Governor on the powers thus claimed, and to confine him to the exercise of the powers and duties confided to him by the Constitution and the laws.

The undersigned recommend the passage of the following Joint Resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Delegates of Maryland, That the Governor be requested to return to the armories of the State, the arms which have been removed by his order from said armories, and deposited in Fort McHenry, or placed in the hands of ununiformed companies, or associations of individuals; and that he return to all regularly organized and uniformed volunteer companies, of the State, the arms reclaimed from them, or either of them, by his order.

THOS. J. MCKAIG, *Chairman;*

O. MILES.

Which was read.

Messrs. Goldsborough, of Talbot, and Smith, of Carroll, submitted, as a substitute, the following

REPORT:

The undersigned, a portion of the Committee on Judicial Proceedings, to whom was referred the message of the Executive respecting the return of the arms of the State furnished certain military companies in Baltimore city and elsewhere, and the reasons why the same have been sent to Fort McHenry, beg leave to report—

That after having carefully considered the same, they are of opinion that the Governor has in this matter acted within the