

to their knees by blows from "billies" and "clubs"—they were robbed of every portable article on their persons—they were forced upon threats of death to swallow immense draughts of drugged and stupefying liquors—they were denied in some instances even the conveniences of nature, except in a most disgusting form—they were taken from the coops on the day of election and driven about to the different wards of the city and voted time and again without any seeming recognition or remonstrance from the judges of election.

We submit to the house as the grand inquest of the State, and to the public whom this report may reach, whether such a state of things has ever been equalled, and whether it does not plead with louder tongue, than that of many trumpets, for our interposition. All the outrages were perpetrated in the heart of a great city, in the face of the city government, which was either powerless to prevent, or in the hope of perpetuating the dynasty which force and fraud has fastened upon the people, openly connived at them. This complicity on the part of the authorities, which is abundantly proved by testimony of Wm. Hunt, p. 20; T. J. Rusk, 34; W. H. Smith, 27; Wm. Stetter, 33; F. C. Meeyer, 41; P. Sherwood, 60; J. R. Diggs, 66; G. Evans, 70; G. W. Mowbray, 73; J. Clarkson, 88; J. Vansant, 91; Dr. C. H. Bradford, 95; Dr. M. N. Taylor, 111; F. S. Austin, 125, Dr. W. C. Tappan, 127; L. Muller, 135; Dr. F. C. B. Hintze, 142; S. T. Wallis, 167; G. W. Squires, 309; G. H. E. Bailey, 319, and other witnesses, your committee regard as the most lamentable, as well as the most potent cause of the crimes, and outrages and frauds, which were perpetrated on the day of the last election in Baltimore, nor would there be any hope for the redemption of the city, from the degradation into which she has been plunged by bands of rowdies and corrupt officials, but for the remedial laws which the General Assembly of Maryland, has at this session, passed for her relief.

Your committee have thus reviewed the law and the facts applicable to this contest, so far as our other labors and the short time allowed us by the constitution, would permit; and we think it indisputable, that the freedom of the election was violated, to such a degree in nineteen wards of the city—in all except the eighth,—that the so-called election of the 2d of November last, is an utter and complete nullity. Upon this ground alone, and without reference to other points raised in the memorial, your committee are of opinion, that in the said nineteen wards, there cannot be said to have been, either in the legal, equitable or moral sense of the term, any election whatever.