

**Police Board.** The answer was, that there was no warrant of law for such publication, and that it had never been made. Besides, it was unnecessary.

An effort was made, on the part of those preferring charges against the Police Commissioners, to show that secret orders had been issued by them on the morning of the State election to the Police Force, virtually nullifying those which had been previously issued and publicly read to the men to control their action and behavior at the Municipal and State elections. It signally failed. One witness only was produced who testified that the Captain of the Southern Police District had told him, on the day of the State election, that he had received strange orders that morning, and that he did not like them. He further testified, that the Captain did not say what the orders were, or from whom he had received them.

The Captain himself was subsequently put on the stand, as a witness on behalf of those preferring the charges, and positively testified that he had made no such statement to the witness, nor to any one else. That he had received no such orders, and that the only orders read or given to the men in his district, were publicly issued by the Police Board, and that the only person who could give such orders to the men under him, besides himself, were the Police Commissioners, the Marshal and Deputy-Marshal, and that they had given no such orders. The testimony of the whole Board and of the Marshal was, that no such orders had been issued, nor had they heard of such a charge, until after this investigation had begun.

Your Committee further report, that most of the evidence, especially that of the Marshal of Police, whose testimony was full and clear, developed the fact that for weeks prior to the Municipal and State elections, an unusual degree of political excitement existed in Baltimore city, that this excitement was engendered and kept alive by a notoriously inflammatory sheet in that city, with pretensions to respectability, but of meretricious character and factitious importance; and by public meetings held in the interest of the so-called Reform party, at which the harangues were especially directed to fomenting discord between the contesting political parties, and to libelling the Police Force of the City. Notably was this the case at the meeting held at the Maryland Institute on the evening of Saturday, the 30th of October last. As evidence that the Police Force did its full duty in preserving the peace of the city during the period of said excitement, no better instance can be given than that a score of them at that meeting for its protection, heard themselves most unjustly