

hundred and seventy witnesses who have sworn to acts of general or particular violence in Baltimore on the 2nd of November last, and whose testimony is before this House; and they show such a state of disorder, tumult licensed wrong and lawless riot to have prevailed there on that day, as must entail a curse upon any community.

There are some tribunals that no amount of evidence will ever set right, and many

“A man convinced against his will,
Is of the same opinion still.”

But what is the use of pretending that individual security was there, when the evidence shows that at least ninety-seven different individuals, all Reformers or colored men, were seen to be specially assaulted, beaten, kicked or maltreated in Baltimore city on that day; of what avail is it to prate about the prevalence of peace and order, when one hundred and forty-seven witnesses swear that in at least thirty-four different election precincts in the City of Baltimore on that day, there was rioting, intimidation and assaulting of Reform voters at the polls, and driving of them from the polls by ruffians uttering Democratic party cries; that, in the very presence of the police, Reform voters and ticket-holders were shot at and knocked down, without let or hindrance from these officers of the law, and that in many, very many, cases the police gave either a laughing approval or an active assistance to these outrages.

This being the evidence, and these the conclusions which we base upon it, we are unable to report that the charges referred to, and which have been so publicly made, are unsustainable. On the contrary we think that the citizens of Baltimore and of the State generally, have only too much cause to hold the Police Commissioners of that city responsible for the reign of fraud which there prevailed at the late elections; for the corruption and knavery inside the polling places, and the riot and brutality outside; for the violated purity of the ballot box; the persecution and blood; for the private rights trampled under foot, and the great crying shame and wrong inflicted upon the city, and the State which appeals to this House for redress and punishment.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The evidence taken before the Committee on Elections of this House, in the investigation of the Police Commissioners of the City of Baltimore, and the testimony returned to this House in the Legislative contested election cases from Baltimore city, sustain the charge of official misconduct by said Police Commissioners; therefore,