

John W. Davis, Police Commissioners aforesaid, having been arrested by orders of the General commanding the army of the United States, and imprisoned in Fort McHenry, under frivolous and arbitrary pretexs, without oath, warrant, presentment of a Grand Jury, or lawful cause disclosed or trial had, have since been removed, by military force, under the same orders, to Fort La Fayette in New York, where they are now held, as "prisoners of State," at the arbitrary pleasure of the President of the United States and the officers under him, at a distance from their homes and families, in utter defiance of law and constitution, and in criminal violation of the plainest and dearest rights to which American citizens are born; now, therefore, it is

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That we solemnly protest, in the name of the State and her people, against the proceedings aforesaid, in all their parts, pronouncing the same, so far as they affect individuals, a gross and unconstitutional abuse of power which nothing can palliate or excuse; and, in their bearing upon the authority and constitutional powers and privileges of the State herself, a revolutionary subversion of the federal compact.

*Resolved,* That we appeal, in the most earnest manner, to the whole people of the country, of all parties, sections and opinions, to take warning by the usurpations aforementioned, and come to the rescue of the free institutions of the Republic, so that whatever may be the issue of the melancholy conflict which is now covering the land with sacrifice and sorrow, and threatens to overwhelm it with debt and ruin, there may at least survive to us, when it is over, the republican form of government which our fathers bequeathed to us, and the inestimable rights which they framed it to perpetuate.

*Resolved,* That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House be and they are hereby requested to cause copies of these Resolutions to be transmitted to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governors of the several States, with the request that they be submitted by the latter to their respective Legislatures.

On motion of Mr. Gordon,

The rules were suspended, and

The resolutions read the second time, and adopted by yeas and nays as follow: