

our serious consideration;" *And whereas*, the Senate and House of Delegates agree with His Excellency in reference to the importance of the matter; and entertaining a high regard for the dignity, power and honor of the office which he holds, the checks and balances maintained in our Constitution and Form of Government, and the peace and quiet of the community, on the one side, and the freedom and personal rights of the citizens on the other; and as they have been addressed by His Excellency, upon the subject, and their opinions invoked, a due sense of respect for themselves and people of the State of Maryland, whom they represent, imperatively demands of them that they should speak upon the subject, Therefore,

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That we condemn all frauds upon the ballot-box, by whomsoever perpetrated; and all violence, hinderance or intimidation of the citizens, whether actually threatened in the exercise of his elective franchises; and we proclaim it as the unalterable opinion of the people we represent, that the freedom and purity of the ballot-box is essential to the existence of our free Institutions, and the peace of this Commonwealth; and that they should be preserved everywhere within her limits, and by all the power of the State.

*And be it further resolved*, That the assertion of His Excellency, that the state of society in the city of Baltimore, on the eve of the last election was verging upon the fiercest anarchy, and that outrages almost incredible in a civilized community were then and there committed; and that an ubiquitous organization prevailed by violence, to the exclusion of voters at will; and controlled means and resources for the most pernicious and daring frauds; and "that such wrongs were perpetrated as have no parallel in the election annals of our country, but in Baltimore itself," "and this too under the official assurance of municipal power, and of a police organization and a plan of operations adequate to the emergency," unsustained as it is by any evidence we condemn as a