

city of Baltimore, at the approaching election, and we having been made fully acquainted with all the facts and circumstances which have attended the subject, have fully concurred in all the views and measures which he has felt it to be his duty to take, from first to last.

W. H. D. C. WRIGHT,
ROB'T CLINTON WRIGHT.

Baltimore, Nov. 1, 1857.

The undersigned having been consulted by Governor Ligon, in relation to the various measures adopted by him to preserve the peace in the city at the approaching election, and having witnessed the loyal firmness with which he has exerted his constitutional powers in this behalf, feel it to be our duty to tender our testimony to this, in view of the certainty of the malignant misrepresentations with which his course will be assailed by a certain portion of the press.

But we were not willing to join in a paper signed by some of our associates without accompanying it with this explanation.

In the terms of the letter addressed on Nov. 1st, 1857, by Gov. Ligon to Mayor Swann, we know that no part of its phraseology was intended at all to admit any other construction than that the exercise of power to use the military was constitutional and legal and had been only practically suspended because of the assurances that the Mayor would compose a special police of respectable persons without regard to party, and this we hoped would be effective and sufficient for *this occasion*.

But we saw from circumstances around us that its language would be distorted by the Press and partizan leaders, and that the effort would be made to inculcate the belief that the letter had been intended as a surrender of his right to use the military power.

We knew that Gov. Ligon had come to this city with no view of arraying that force against a political party, but against those only who were believed to be a limited number of lawless men. When therefore we saw the press of this party unitedly assailing him for this purpose and the civil authority of the city, practically leading this excitement, we concurred in the expediency of that letter with a view to avoid the general bloodshed which his military might have to cause if some practicable arrangement of peace was not adopted.

We thought it better therefore that the Governor should accept the Mayor's proffered responsibility for the peace of the city, and hand it over after the 4th instant to the rule of the clubs and a people whom we had reason to think, felt that a citizen soldiery employed against lawless men, was a constitutional outrage,