

nouncing, among other things, that he had issued to this imposing military force, thus brought into the field, full instructions to preserve the peace of the city, and secure to the legal voters their rights, against the violence and intimidation of the lawless ruffians, who have disgraced the city, and outraged the elective rights in the recent elections;

*And Whereas*, In said proclamation he commanded that, no man should leave the precincts of his own ward, unless ordered to do so by competent authority. Thus he would promote the fairness of the election, and avoid the just retribution that would be dealt to those vagrant emissaries of disorder, who wander from place to place, for the purpose of illegal voting;

*And Whereas*, His Excellency in communicating to the Senate and House of Delegates, his proceedings in and about the matters aforesaid, has declared that a decent respect for the opinions of his fellow-citizens, and due concern for the dignity of his office, and a regard for his personal honor, induced him to employ that occasion for a dispassionate review of the series of events intimately connected with our domestic policy, and entitled, apart from any concern he might entertain with regard to himself, to 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 the people of the State of Maryland, whom they represent, imperatively demand 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 citizen, whether actually threatened in the exercise of his elective franchise; 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 the 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,