

Preamble and Resolutions adopted by the
Board of Police, on June 27th.

Whereas the laws of the State of Maryland give the whole and exclusive control of the police force of the city to the Board of Police, organized and appointed by the General Assembly; and not only are the said Board bound to exercise the powers in, and to discharge the duties imposed upon them, but all other persons are positively prohibited, under heavy penalties, from interfering with them in so doing; and

Whereas there is no power given to the Board to transfer the control over any portion of the police force to any person or persons whomsoever, other than the officers of police appointed by them, in pursuance of the express provisions of the law, and acting under their orders; and

Whereas by the orders of Major General Banks, an officer of the United States Army, commanding in this city, the Marshal of Police has been arrested—the Board of Police superseded, and an officer of the army has been appointed provost marshal, and directed to assume the command and control of the police force of the city; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Board do solemnly protest against the orders and proceedings above referred to of Major General Banks as an arbitrary exercise of military power, not warranted by any provision of the constitution or laws of the United States, or of the State of Maryland, but in derogation of all of them.

Resolved, That whilst the Board, yielding to the force of circumstances, will do nothing to increase the present excitement, or obstruct the execution of such measures as Major General Banks may deem proper to take on his own responsibility for the preservation of the peace of the city, and of public order, they cannot, consistently with their views of official duty and of the obligations of their