

under the orders of the Board of Police, is distinctly prohibited.

To the due execution of the laws of their State for their local government, by legally constituted officers, the free citizens of Baltimore have an unquestioned constitutional right. The manner in which that right has been respected will appear from the facts which we now recite:

The Major General commanding in the military department of which this city forms a part, issued a proclamation dated June 27th, announcing the arrest of the Marshal of Police. With professions of respect for every municipal regulation and public statute, the proclamation further announces to the public that the official authority of the Marshal of Police and the Board of Police is superseded, and a "Provost Marshal," an officer unknown to the civil law of Maryland, is appointed. No charge is preferred against the members of the Board of Police, nor is any reason assigned for superseding them and depriving the citizens of Baltimore of their only legal Police authority.

The Board of Police, yielding to the force which prevented their execution of the laws of this State, submitted to the practical suspension of their functions, and neither offered nor permitted any resistance to such action as the General in command saw fit to adopt.

The Provost Marshal appointed by the General in command to execute the police laws of Maryland for the government of the city of Baltimore, took possession of the offices belonging to the city, and removed certain officials not appointed by the Board but by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, appointing others in their place.

The memorial of the Board of Police has presented at length the considerations of official duty which made it impossible for them either themselves to aid, or to permit the officers under their command to aid in violations of the law under which they hold office. A comparison of the reasons assigned by them, with the provisions of the police law, to which they direct your attention, will prove the correctness of their conclusions. Under date of July 1st appeared a third proclamation of the General in command, announcing the arrest of the members of the Board of Police. Again disclaiming for those under whose authority he acts, any intention to interfere with the municipal affairs of Baltimore, he assigns certain reasons for the summary arrest of these gentlemen, whom without complaint on oath or civil process he arrested, and now holds in custody. Examined in connection with the law under which they were appointed, the pretended offences charged against them, amount together to the