

MAYOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Honorable the Members of the

First and Second Branches of the City Council:

GENTLEMEN :

A great object of the Reform movement was to separate municipal affairs entirely from national politics, and in accordance with this principle, I have heretofore, in all my communications to the City Council, carefully refrained from any allusion to national affairs. I shall not now depart from this rule further than is rendered absolutely necessary by the unprecedented condition of things at present existing in this city.

On the 19th of April last an attack was made by a mob in the streets of Baltimore on several companies of a regiment of Massachusetts troops, who were on their way to the city of Washington in pursuance of a call for 75,000 men made by the President of the United States.

On the day previous, troops had been safely passed through the city under the escort of the police. In the afternoon of the same day (18th,) the regiments from Massachusetts were expected, and provision was made by the police for their reception, but they did not arrive, and the Board of Police could not ascertain when they would come, although two of the members of the Board went in person to the station of the Philadelphia Railroad Company to obtain the necessary information. On the morning of the 19th, about ten o'clock, I was at my law office engaged in the performance of professional business, when three members of the City Council came to me with a message from Marshal Kane to the effect that he had just learned that the troops were about to arrive, and that he apprehended some disturbance. I immediately hastened to the office of the Board of Police and gave notice. George M. Gill, Esq., Counsellor of the city, and myself,