

said Board, of its lawful and important functions; and have appointed sundry individuals, in large numbers, to govern the said city, as policemen, in contempt of the constitutional rights of the State of Maryland, and in open and flagrant violation of its laws; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States, instead of rebuking the wrong and usurpation aforesaid, has justified and approved the same, under color of a "military necessity" not known to the institutions of the country and fatal to its liberties, and has appropriated large sums of money for the compensation of the said unlawful police force, so that the members thereof are maintained thereby in daily and oppressive hostility to the laws of Maryland and the rights of its citizens, and constitute in fact a civil government, established by Congress over the chief city of this State; and

WHEREAS, Charles Howard, William H. Gatchell and John W. Davis, Police Commissioners aforesaid, having been arrested by order of the General commanding the army of the United States, and imprisoned in Fort McHenry, under frivolous and arbitrary pretexs, without oath, warrant, presentment of a Grand Jury, or lawful cause disclosed or trial had, have since been removed, by military force, under the same orders, to Fort La Fayette, in New York, where they are now held, as "prisoners of State," at the arbitrary pleasure of the President of the United States and the officers under him, at a distance from their homes and families, in utter defiance of law and constitution, and in criminal violation of the plainest and dearest rights to which American citizens are born; now, therefore, it is

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That we solemnly protest, in the name of the State and her people, against the proceedings aforesaid, in all their parts; pronouncing the same, so far as they affect individuals, a gross and unconstitutional abuse of power, which nothing can palliate or excuse, and, in their bearing upon the authority and constitutional powers and privileges of the State herself, a revolutionary subversion of the Federal compact.

*Resolved,* That we appeal, in the most earnest manner, to the whole people of the country, of all parties, sections and opinions, to take warning by the usurpations aforesaid, and come to the rescue of the free institutions of the Republic, so that whatever may be the issue of the melancholy conflict which is now covering the land with sacrifice and sorrow, and threatens to overwhelm it with debt and ruin, there may at least survive to us, when it is over, the republican form of government which our fathers