

sire to have a final decision upon them obtained as soon as possible; all the points raised in the case were fully and elaborately argued in the Superior Court of Baltimore city. On the 13th of March that court pronounced its opinion, entirely sustaining the constitutionality and validity of the law, and rendered judgment accordingly. An appeal having been taken, the judgment of the Supreme Court was, on the 17th of April, unanimously affirmed by the Court of Appeals.

On the rendition of this judgment the Mayor of the city promptly surrendered to the Board the station houses, arms, equipments, &c., provided for the use of the Police force previously established by the city, and on the 21st of April the said force passed under the sole and exclusive management of the Board of Police. On the 7th of May the Board revoked all the commissions previously given by the city authorities, and gave new appointments to the officers and men whom they had selected, and they continued to exercise their authority over the force according to law, making such changes in the composition of the same by removals and new appointments as they deemed advisable, until the 3d day of October, when they publicly declared by advertisement in the newspapers, that the organization of the Police force, created by the authority of the State, was complete.

The Board take pleasure in stating that the introduction of the new system, which it was made their duty to inaugurate, was followed by a marked improvement in the general good order of the city, and a cessation of those scenes of riotous and lawless violence which were before of such constant occurrence in the streets and public places of the city, as well as on private premises. The efficiency of the present Police system for the preservation of order, has been, since its establishment, well tested. The visits of strangers of high public positions, under circumstances which attracted large crowds to the city. The holding of several political conventions of delegates from every part of the country, in whose proceedings the most intense interest was felt, and the occurrence of two important elections, have all taken place without any serious disturbance or breach of the peace. In this respect the most sanguine hopes of those who anticipated such results from the organization of a Police force, entirely disconnected with, and independent of the influence of any political party, have been fully realized.

Crimes of other descriptions, the Board regret to say, continue to be far too prevalent in the city. Burglars and thieves pursue their avocations, and in many instances have as yet escaped detection. The Board have given much attention to this subject, and have adopted such measures as