

These memorialists comprise nearly one-half of the vote of the city. Three thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven persons did not vote because of intimidation, eleven hundred and thirty were actually beaten from the polls, and fourteen hundred did not vote from reasons unassigned. Such a complete and thorough disfranchisement of so great a proportion of the votes of a municipality is unparalleled in the history of our country, and in the judgment of your committee calls loudly for the interposition of this House. It raises the startling question, whether freedom of election, the right of ballot, so fully guaranteed by the constitution and the laws of the State, is to be regarded, or whether mob violence is to prevail; whether good and virtuous citizens are to surrender their dearest social and political rights to the self-constituted tyranny of the vicious and depraved. Of such a question, raised by the most indubitable testimony, there can be but one solution. We owe it to ourselves and to the people of the State whose representatives we are, to say, that the good and virtuous shall be protected in the exercise of their highest civil and political functions, and that the vicious and depraved shall be put down in their attempted assertion of violence and fraud.

The same reasons and the same law which guided your committee in a former case to declare there was no election in the city of Baltimore, influences them in the present one, and we therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it appears to this House that there was such tumult, disorder, riot, intimidation and injustice in the election of a clerk of the Circuit court for the city of Baltimore, on the second of November last, in contempt of law and in violation of the freedom of elections, that the said election is void, and the said office is hereby declared vacant.

GEO. FREANER, Chairman,  
 J. H. GORDON,  
 G. W. GOLDSBOROUGH,  
 C. A. HARDING,  
 G. H. MORGAN.