

97  
Parsons Hotel  
Baltimore, Oct 28 1857

Hon Thomas Juarez  
Mayor of Baltimore

Sir  
I have just received your reply to my letter of yesterday, and beg to say that your views of the respective powers and duties do not accord with my own.

Believed with the authority to add that the laws are executed throughout the entire State. I cannot comprehend how the City of Baltimore or its Mayor recognizes no subordination to the State Executive, His power is created by the Constitution, that organic instrument also defines his duties. Has the Mayor of Baltimore any coordinate position in that Charter, or does not his authority flow that of the City the more endowments of Ordinary legislation.

I am mortified and pained to notice that even in a municipal agent of government, which if generally adopted would subvert the whole theory of our institutions, and end in jealous rivalries among the chain of officials.

Under your view it would seem that any officer of a municipality elected by the people be made by that circumstance subordinate to no one and only accountable to them for the manner in which he discharged his trust.

I will not manhandle in any protracted repetition of an error which must rather be the growth of official sensibility than of mistaken conceptions of Constitutional position. The natural sequel of such an error is the further implication that my powers and duties are to be initiated in activity by the discretion of municipal subordinates. Do you thus await the application of your subordinates? If not, why? Simply because you are sworn to see the laws executed, and whilst in general you confide in the fulfilment of their duties, you still hold in reserve those powers of suspension, which are made necessary by the fact that these subordinates may not recognize their own defects and their errors bearing on the general welfare.

Is not the city filled with clubs of lawless and violent partizans, who so very appreciative of undisciplined at order and make the peaceable prefer to surrender rights rather than claim them at the risk of life? Sir, is there no law and no authority somewhere to curb the and clap and shield the other? If the Ordinary civil power of the city is insufficient, what is the inevitable deduction? Is it not better that you should admit its inadequacy and be cordially grateful that the Constitution has supplied other powers, and permitted for you as that Executive to interfere who has not been at all contemplated in past animosities.

You mention in your communication that one of your policemen was "murdered" at the recent elections. What guarantee is there that a similar occurrence may not happen again at the