

said District in an armed and threatening manner;

And Whereas this proceeding, if not arrested, is likely in a short time to deprive the people of those Counties of all their slave property;

And Whereas the said slaves, after reaching the said District, are protected by persons representing themselves to be Federal officers, so that they cannot be reclaimed by their owners under civil process, and the Marshal of the District of Columbia having refused to execute civil process under the fugitive slave law alleging that he is acting under instructions received from the President or Secretary of State;

And Whereas the people of said Counties are practically prevented from protecting themselves by lawful patrols—the only efficient method—because bodies of Federal soldiers occupy the termini of the roads leading into said District, and threaten to prevent any interference with said escaping slaves;

And Whereas the above facts disclose, in the judgement of this meeting, a practical condition of domestic disorder or insurrection among the slave population, which requires the prompt action of the Executive, for the protection of the lives and property of the people therefore—

Resolved, That the Governor be, and is hereby requested to exercise immediately proper and Constitutional powers to remedy the aforesaid evils and protect the people; and to this end, he be earnestly requested, as done in former cases, to cause to be called out such force and posse, or patrols in the Counties where such evils now exist, as may be necessary to suppress the disorders above recapitulated.

Resolved, That the Governor be further requested to protest to the Federal authorities against the aforesaid illegal and unconstitutional action of Federal officers and soldiers, both in and upon the confines of the District of Columbia, in protecting runaways and assisting in their escape.

Resolved, That William D. Bowie, Frank M. Wall, Oden Bowie, G. W. Duwall, William C. Hill, William A. Barker, Charles C. Hill, A. B. Berry, John Bowie, Frederick Passcer, R. D. S. Chew, J. J. Hardesty & Dr. Joseph S. Duwall, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to wait upon Governor Bradford, furnish him with a copy of the proceedings of this meeting, and of the foregoing preamble and resolutions and urge upon him the necessity of immediate action, and that they call another meeting to receive their report when ready to be made.