

corruption of the constables, nurtured and gave maturity to that horrid spirit of licentiousness, which terminated in the tragical and lawless events detailed by your committee.

That Gen. Stricker, aware of the ferocious and blood thirsty temper of the mob, who were eternally vociferating "blood for blood," and seeking to satiate their vengeance by the instrumentality of a field piece levelled at the house, most wofully failed to gratify the spirit of the requisition made on him by the civil power, when he issued to major Barney orders not calculated to ensure the return of order and peace, by enforcing the dispersal of those who were violating both.

That major Barney erred, when (although tied down by his orders, and evidencing every disposition to prevent the effusion of blood and to allay the violence of the mob) he attempted by conciliation and persuasion to induce the mob to disperse, which had the effect to banish that awe and apprehension which the presence of an armed cavalry naturally inspires. That his pledge to the mob, that none of those in the house should escape, was calculated to give all that confirmation which would necessarily result from the expression of his opinion, that the gentlemen in the house were the aggressors, and the mob, of course, were justified in their horrid outrages. That Gen. Stricker, knowing as he did, that a portion of his brigade manifested a spirit incompatible with the gratification of any military order, which the requisition on him demanded, and being present, when the sanguinary temper of the rioters evidenced itself, in a force incompatible with the safety of the persons marching to the gaol, and unchecked either by the interposition of the military force with which they were surrounded, or by the presence of the political friends of the mob, failed to do his duty to his country when he omitted to order out a larger portion of his brigade on the 28th. That he was guilty of a manifest departure from every principle of prudence, when he, by a verbal, rendered unavailing a written order, given to colonel Sterett, to fire on any assailants. This restriction, in the opinion of your committee, merits the most decided reprobation, as being utterly inconsistent with, and having a direct tendency to render inoperative, any application of a military force; nor can the dismissal of the troops on the evening of the 28th day of July, when opposite opinions were entertained as to the designs of the turbulent; when the civil power was lulled into a fatal security by assurances of an efficient military co-operation; when the general and his advisers were vibrating between apprehensions of danger and belief of security; when no exertions were made to sound the temper of the different quarters of the city, be considered in any other aspect than as the act of a timid mind, seeking to avoid a responsibility for the awful consequences resulting from an efficient military resistance. If the military assembled as a portion of the fifth regiment, was inadequate for the purpose of defence, Gen. Stricker owed it to the solemnity of the occasion, to his pledge to the gentlemen in the gaol, to his duty to his state, to appear in the most impressive manner, and to invite all, either attached by military pride, by political association, or by personal confidence, to rally under his banners. That such a course of military preparation would be productive of a result favorable to humanity and our pride of state, is apparent from the occurrences connected with the operations at the post office. The public had a right to demand that those wretches who had thus trampled on the law, and outraged humanity, should, by a fair administration of justice, be brought to punishment; it had a right to expect, that the law officer of the state would see that at least an impartial trial should be had. Your committee are therefore of opinion, that John Montgomery, Esq. the attorney-general, when he believed that the sovereignty of the law could not, either from corruption in the jurors, or the influence of public feeling, (an event anticipated from the very genius of our government,) be vindicated in the city of Baltimore, was bound, both by his duty and his oath of office, to enter a suggestion of his belief, and pray for the removal of the trials to an adjoining county. This omission, in the opinion of your committee, demands from this house a severe animadversion.

All which is submitted.

By order,

LOUIS GASSAWAY, Clk.

Which was read.

Mr. Young from the committee, delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the executive, enclosing an order of the court of appeals, directing the purchase of a substantial table for the accommodation of the bar, and two dozen substantial plain chairs, venetian blinds for the windows, and a good carpet for the floor of the room occupied by the said court and bar when in session, have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that the order of the court is proper. They therefore, submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer of the Eastern Shore pay to James Earle, clerk to the court of appeals for the said shore, out of any unappropriated money in the treasury, a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, to defray the expence of carrying into effect the order of the court of appeals.

By order,

JOHN STEVENS, Junr. Clk.

Which was read the first and second time by special order, concurred in, and the resolution therein contained assented to.

The house adjourns until this evening five o'clock.

POST MERIDIAN, 5 o'clock.

The house met.

The bill to sell the real estate of Thomas Chesley and Henrietta Chesley; the bill for the support of William M. Chaney; the bill making an appropriation for the penitentiary; the bill to make a turnpike road from the district of Columbia to Fredericktown; the resolution in favor of Michael O'Connor; and the resolution relative to certain officers of the navy, were sent to the senate.

The bill entitled, a supplement to an act entitled, an act to extend M'Elderry street in the eastern precincts of Baltimore; the bill entitled, an act to authorise Wm. Courts, of Charles county to remove and bring into this state certain negroes; the bill entitled, an act for the relief of Charles Thompson, of Dorchester county; and the bill entitled, an act to lay out and open a road in Anne Arundel county, were severally read the second time by special order, passed, and sent to the senate.