

No. 4.

WHEREAS, it is represented to this General Assembly that the President and Managers of the Baltimore and Fredericktown Turnpike Company are charging a higher rate of tolls on their road than by law they are authorized to do, and that they are charging and collecting toll for travel upon what was formerly a part of their road but is now one of the public streets of the City of Baltimore, by a conveyance of the same made by said company, and have also for a long time neglected to repair the Pratt street road as required by their charter; *and whereas*, it is proper that the General Assembly should protect the public against impositions under color of law by corporations of its creation; therefore,

Assented to
Feb. 28, 1867.

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,
That the Attorney General be and he is hereby directed to inquire whether the rates of toll charged by the said President and Managers of the Fredericktown Turnpike Road Company are higher than is warranted by law, whether they are charging for passing over any road or way not now by law belonging to them, and whether the said Pratt street road has been or is now in a condition such as their charter requires, and whether their charter has been infringed in any other respects, due notice of which shall be given said company, with specifications and opportunity to said company for defence, and if he shall be of opinion that the charter of said company, in any or all of these, or in any other particular is violated, he shall publish his written opinion to that effect in two of the newspapers of the City of Baltimore, and shall give notice to said company of his said opinion, and if the company shall not within a reasonable time after said notice correct the wrong which it shall authorize or permit, then said Attorney General shall take such steps as he may deem necessary to enforce an obedience to the laws; *provided*, that he shall not take proceedings to perfect its charter unless he shall be unable other-