

REPORT.

To the Honorable,

the General Assembly of Maryland:

The undersigned, Commissioners of Police of the city of Baltimore, have the honor respectfully to report:—

That from the date of their report made to your Honorable Body in May last, they continued faithfully to discharge the duties imposed on them by the laws of the State, until Thursday morning, the 27th of June. At an early hour on that day, Col. George P. Kane, the Marshal of Police, was arrested at his residence, by a body of military, acting under an order of Major General Banks, in the service of the United States, and was taken to Fort McHenry, where he is still confined. A few hours afterwards, the Board were called on by Col. Kenly, who read to them an order of Gen. Banks appointing him Provost Marshal, and a proclamation by the same officer, announcing to the citizens of Baltimore, that the Marshal of Police had been arrested, and that the official authority of the Board of Police was “superseded.”

The Commissioners of Police having maturely considered their duties and obligations under the law by which they held their appointments, could not avoid the conclusion, that such action, on the part of an officer of the General Government, who in point of fact held at the time military possession of the city of Baltimore, at once suspended the active operation of the Police law, and put for the time off duty, all the officers and men, who could not without directly violating both the letter and spirit of the law, recognize the authority or be subject to the control of any other head than the Board of Police. Accordingly the Board unanimously adopted a resolution to that effect.