

under which he is acting, the Mayor of the city is made the judge of, and is responsible for, the completeness and efficiency of his arrangements for preserving the public peace; and that the only official source of information, in reference to the plans heretofore adopted, was in him alone, and the officers acting under him.

As to what your Excellency has said about the importance of maintaining law and order in a great commercial metropolis like this, I need hardly assure you, that no man has labored more faithfully or assiduously, than I have done towards the accomplishment of this end. The events which have transpired since I took charge of the municipal government, and the murdered and wounded policemen, who have fallen in the late effort to preserve the peace of the city, and to secure to the citizen the free exercise of his right of suffrage, will sufficiently attest the activity of my labors.

My preparations at the last municipal election were, as is known, of the most ample character, sufficiently so in my judgment, to have met any emergency. That individual instances of complaint were to be found, is not to be wondered at. These are incident to all excited elections, that have heretofore taken place in our city.

My instructions to the police were of the most absolute and impartial character, and in every instance of decided outbreak, the efficiency of this force was felt and acknowledged.

At the election in November, in furtherance of the object which I have never lost sight of, in addition to the complement of officers assigned to the stations and the various election precincts, acting immediately in concert with the judges, together with the details by which they will be regulated, there will be, what may be deemed in my judgment, a competent force to ensure to those who may be entitled to vote, the free and untrammelled exercise of their right of suffrage; and I will state it as my belief that unless some unforeseen occurrence should take place, or an ungovernable feeling should be excited by those who are now engaged in the effort to break down the city government, that the election will proceed quietly and without interruption.

As the Mayor of the city of Baltimore, I hold my commission directly from the people, and am accountable to them for the manner in which I discharge my trust, the office which I have been called upon to assume was conferred upon me without solicitation, and will be laid down whenever it shall be made to appear that I have lost the confidence of those whom it has been my highest endeavor to serve. I can recognize "subordination" to no other power within the sphere of my duty, I deemed it due to courtesy to afford to your Excellency the amplest information in regard to the matters to which you refer in your letter, and now invite from you any reliable evidence upon which I can