

Baltimore, November 14th 1866.

The Board met at 9 o'clock.

Present . James Young - President and
Wm. Shub. Valiant,

Immediately after the meeting of the Commissioners, the Deputy Marshal reported that in obedience to the order issued at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock last night, the roll at the several Station houses had been called at 6 o'clock this morning, and that the Captains were in waiting to report the result in person. They were introduced, and stated that the entire force, both night and day, except three had answered.

The Commissioners know they have been censured for not dismissing all of the officers and men immediately after obtaining possession of the office, because they had failed to report when first ordered on the 3^d November. Under the circumstances the Commissioners could not have done otherwise than they did. The law was plain. No man or officer could be removed without a trial. Charges must be preferred for some specific offence, and the offender tried by the Board. In this matter, as in all others appertaining to the office, the Commissioners acted by the advice of counsel, gentlemen who are recognized as being at the head of the profession in this City.

When the order of November 3^d was issued at about One O'clock and just as the Evening Transcript, the only exclusive afternoon paper in the City, was being published, but, before the paper appeared, the Commissioners arrested; and remained under arrest in prison or constructively in prison, until the opinion of Judge Bartol was delivered on the Tuesday week following, ten days afterwards. So that in point of fact, there was no opportunity afforded either the officers or men to report until Wednesday morning at 6 o'clock, the day after the Commissioners had been discharged by the order of Judge Bartol.

Power had this been otherwise, it would hardly have been just to discharge men for not accepting the law as it was understood by the Commissioners with the weight of judicial authority.