however, still remains to be done. The power of the police is limited, and ends with the arrest of the party or parties offending against the laws. What would have been the effect upon the morals of this community, as a wholesome measure of prevention, if many who have fallen into the hands of the City officers had been cut off in their career of lawlessness by the application of prompt punishment, such as a house of labor or correction would have afforded, will be left for others to determine. The authority to apply this check, I repeat again, is not in the hands of the city government. The evil is in the system of criminal management entailed upon us by the new constitution, which I used every effort in my power to remedy.

The great desire I felt to meet the public expectation in reference to this arm of our government, has induced me, for the present, to take charge, in person, of the police department. I have deemed it advisable, also, to exercise my functions as Justice of the Peace, in the prompt committal of all cases of flagrant outrage, for the action of the Criminal Court, believing that with the two agencies, working in concert, under my own immediate supervision, the most beneficial and decided results would be experienced. These duties have never devolved upon any of my predecessors; nor would it be possible for me to pursue the routine which it involves without, I fear, a partial neglect of other and not less important duties. It is my purpose, however, to give my best efforts to the city, to meet the expectations of the public in supplying the glaring omissions of our defective system.

As a prominent and leading measure of reform, your attention is called to the necessity of taking prompt and immediate action in reference to the construction of a new Alms House. In two years the present institution passes into the hands of the County, under the terms of the recent sale, when the city will be left without a refuge for its poor. The differences so long pending between the commissioners of the City and County, I take pleasure in saying, are now satisfactorily adjusted; and an official letter from the commissioners representing the city, which I propose to lay before you at a proper time, estimates a sum of about $175000. as applicable to this improvement

Cash — — — — —	$19341.17
Bonds of Baltimore County	76000.00
Lot No 4 Valued at	14625.00
" " 5 " "	21993.75
" " 7 " "	44071.87
Total —	$175431.79

It is a matter of first importance that plans should be advertised for at an early day. The want of an asylum for the accommodation of paupers and vagrants, with suitable work shops attached to the same, has been severely felt; and it is believed the adoption of a proper system in reference to this improvement will exercise a most salutary influence over the morals of our community — besides greatly reducing the expense to which the city is now subjected in the maintainance of her poor. It is a great mistake in an institution of this sort to tolerate the habit of idleness which has heretofore prevailed. The pauper who asks the support of the city should be made to labor if able to do so: and suitable places of confinement should be provided for the safe keeping of those who may be committed under the provisions of the vagrant act. If work shops are established, and a system of labor determined on, it is believed that many who now throw themselves upon the charity of the city, would seek a support elsewhere. The number of paupers confined in the Alms House at the present time, is unusually large and it is difficult to say where this expense will end, if something is not done to reform the present defective plan of the institution. I would strongly urge upon your honorable body, to imponer a committee to ascertain the experience of other cities, and to report such a plan for your adoption as may embody the features to which I have referred, with such others as may be suggested from a careful examination of similar institutions elsewhere

Your honorable body will see at once how important it is in a large and growing community like this to provide some place for the confinement and punishment of vagrants and persons whose characters are such as to require their removal from the public streets. The courts cannot take cognizance of the many cases that are constantly occurring, and I have deemed it my duty to impress upon you the importance of making provision in advance for a change in your present system, when the Mayor will be invested with power to commit to a house of correction for a limited time, the classes of petty criminals that now infest your city.

The position in which I stand towards my fellow-citizens of Baltimore has been a subject of grave responsibility. There are none who can doubt, with any prospect of being sustained, that I have been returned to this office by an overwhelming majority of the legal voters of this city. While an excited feeling has grown up in regard to the result of the election which called me to this post, I feel well assured that those who witnessed my conduct on that occasion, will do me the justice to believe that I was sincere in my desire that the laws should be faithfully executed, and the humblest citizen protected in his rights.