of said City and precincts; the repayment of which was guaranteed by said resolve, in pursuance whereof a loan of Eighty thousand Dollars was obtained from the monied institutions of Baltimore; and there existing at present no provision by law for the payment of the interest thereon, it is certainly due to the liberality displayed by the Banks, that funds should be provided at least equal to the punctual payment of the interest, until some mean can be devised for the total extinguishment of the debt. An application to the Legislature of our State at its late Session, to invest the City Council with the power to impose a tax on the property of the city and Precincts, agreeably to the prayer of the petition formerly presented, for the payments of this debt, has been renewed, and again rejected.

A Law has been passed at the late Session of the General Assembly of our State, authorising the City Council to adopt a scheme of a Lottery to raise Sixty thousand dollars in one or more classes, for the purpose of procuring a suitable lot and buildings to be called a House of Industry, for the purpose of affording relief, by giving employment to, the poor of the City, subject to such rules and regulations as the Corporation shall from time to time, deem it expedient to establish: And if by such an institution the frequent calls made upon our fellow Citizens can be dispensed with, the very objectionable mode of raising money by Lottery may be justified by the extreme urgency and necessity of the case.

In the Months of August last, having called together the different Presidents of the Fire Companies, to consult and adopt efficient regulations for the entertainment of fire, that might be occasioned by the bombardment of our City, by the enemy, which we at the time had serious cause to apprehend, I issued a Circular addressed to a number of gentlemen of our City, who, by reason of their age were exempt from military duty, to meet the Presidents of the Fire Companies for the purpose of consultation, who were kind enough to attend to the call, and who were unanimous in advising and to recommend to the inhabitants of the City and precincts to meet at their respective places of holding elections, and choose three persons from each ward and precinct to compose a committee of Vigilance and safety: which was immediately done, and on the part of the Inhabitants of both the City and Precincts promptly complied with. As every notoriety has been given through the medium of the Press, of the proceedings of this body, I deem it unnecessary to enter into a minute detail thereof.

The important aid which the military authorities acknowledge to have received from the Committee, affords the strongest proof of the judgment with which its members were selected.

Thanks to the God of battles, the fortitude of our Citizens, and to the persevering judgment and heroism of those entrusted with our defence, their important and populous City has not only been preserved from the horrors which have invariably marked the ravages of our ruthless foe, but has been thus preserved with less of sacrifice and of suffering than could have been anticipated by the most sanguine of our fellow Citizens.

When it is recollected that we sustained an incessant bombardment for twenty five hours, from nearly all the Bomb Vessels which belong to that Formidable Ships of Great Britain; that we were simultaneously