

Baltimore, Tuesday May 5th. 1868.

Board met.

Present, Mr. Jantle Presd.
Mr. Lean
Mr. Farnbaugh

District reports received and examined.

The sum of seven hundred and ten ¹²/₁₀₀ dollars - less four dollars counterfeit money thrown out by Bank - making the sum of seven hundred and nine (\$709) paid by the Marshal to Treasurers being amount of Fines & Costs received from the Several Stations during the month of April 1868, after deducting Expenses.

The resignation of Officer Geo. W. Busick M.D. was received and accepted.

An inquiry having been made by the Board of their Counsel, S. Traylor Wallis Esq. as to the duties of Police Officers under certain circumstances, Mr. Wallis furnished the following

Opinion.

My opinion is desired by the Board of Police Commissioners of the City of Baltimore, as to the extent to which their officers and men may lawfully exercise the right of entry into Taverns, Drinking Saloons and other places of public amusement, assembly or resort, for the purpose of preventing or suppressing breaches of the peace and for the general performance of Police-duty. I am informed that the efficiency of the Force has been greatly interfered with, by the prevalence of an erroneous impression, which is attributed (though I must suppose unjustly) to former official authority, and which would narrow the powers of the City Police, within limits altogether incompatible with the purposes of their Organization.

In an Opinion which is intended merely as a practical guide to the Board, I do not deem it necessary to refer to the adjudications, both in England and this Country, which justify the conclusions I am about to state. They are ample, in my judgment, to sustain the Board, in the exercise of every reasonable power which the discharge of their responsible duties may involve.