

detection by persons disposed to evade it, and only restraining those from purchasing who pay more respect to our laws and consequently are our best citizens.

It is also believed that compelling persons to sell meal at market by weight (which was intended to prevent fraud in the mode of measuring) has an effect to preclude many of the country people from supplying our markets with that article as they cannot bring with them scales and weights or attend to having it weighed out in small quantities to the consumer, consequently it throws the supplies in this way into the hands of the dealers in that article and has raised the price. It is with the Council to judge of this matter.

Altho' it may and must be necessary to alter our Ordinances whenever experience finds it proper, yet it will be recollected that changes or alterations should be made with caution, as next to having a bad law is that of not knowing what is the law from its being frequently changed.

The Register will lay before you a summary of the monies received and expended for the last year ending the first instant and will submit his account to your

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examination or to such Committee as you may appoint - altho' it will appear that there has been a very considerable sum expended for various objects yet I trust it will be found to have been as economically applied as the nature of the services would admit of, and it gives me much pleasure that we were able to meet every demand and leave a balance in favor of the City at the end of the year of upwards of five thousand Dollars.

Feb. 13th 1804

Jas. Calhoun

A Message was transmitted to the Second Branch informing them we had appointed Messrs Buchanan Shrim and Stewart on the part of the First Branch to join the members to be appointed by the Second Branch as a joint Committee to take into consideration the subject matter contained in the Mayor's communication and to report thereon.

The Second Branch returned A Message in answer stating that they had appointed Messrs Moore and Johnson to join Messrs Buchanan Shrim and Stewart the members chosen by the first Branch as a Committee for considering the Mayor's communication and reporting thereon.