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Communication which was read -

Gentlemen of the City Council

The numerous difficulties which have presented themselves in erecting a stone bridge over Jones' Falls in conformity to a law passed at your late Session induces the City Commissioners and myself to call to our aid the experience and talents of Mr John Davis who is decidedly of opinion that the plan to which we are restricted of building the bridge with two arches ought to be abandoned believing that a bridge with a single arch can be constructed at much less expense with such elevations as not materially to injure or affect the grade of Baltimore Street.

In attempting to prepare the foundation of the centre pier our operations are obstructed by the stone and wood work of the former stone bridge which feed in, the complete removal of which is indispensable to insure a foundation that will stand, and will certainly be attended with such heavy expenses as to induce me to refer the subject particularly to your consideration. The liberality of your appropriations and the considerable drafts on accounts of the bridge have exhausted your Treasury and in order to enable me to meet with punctuality the demands against it a loan of four or five thousand dollars in anticipation of our funds will be required for the space of sixty or one hundred and twenty days which can be effected when duly authorized.

City of Baltimore  
21 July 1809.

Edw<sup>d</sup> Johnson

A letter from John Davis on the subject of the <sup>Prop</sup> Bridge was received read and referred to the consideration of the Second Branch

A Bill entitled "An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to borrow on loan the sum therein mentioned" was presented, read the first & by Special Order a second time, passed, and sent to the 2<sup>d</sup> Branch & by them passed & returned

A Petition was received from Henry Bruce & others praying for the appropriation of a sum of money to place stepping stones across Howard and Camden Streets, which was read, and a resolution appropriating a sum not exceeding thirty dollars for said purpose being submitted was read, concurred in & sent to the Second Branch & by them returned concurred in.

A message was received from the Second Branch proposing to adjourn until Friday the fourth day of August next in order to afford time to Mr John Davis to prepare & submit plans & estimates of expenses required for building a Stone bridge of one arch, or a Covered Wooden Bridge - to which the branch assented & informed the Second Branch thereof.

Thereupon the Branch adjourned until Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August next 3 P.M.

By Order  
J. A. Moore