

12 chosen, and that most of the public offices and important — commercial Institutions will probably concentrate there and — when your Committee take into consideration the probable extent of this enterprising and flourishing City — when they reflect upon the magnitude of the undertaking and consider that the work which the City is in a manner called upon to do, will be one of its greatest ornaments, and probably superior in point of extent, — elegance and grandeur to any similar building in the United States, they feel that they would be wanting in liberality and public spirit, if they did not strenuously recommend its — encouragement to the utmost extent that the funds of the City will admit.

So much your committee has deemed it necessary and proper to say upon the score of duty and public spirit — they are also of opinion that the proposed investment would be strictly correct upon principles of Economy. —

The lot on Holliday Street which the City has — heretofore purchased for the erection of a City Hall cannot in the present state of our funds be improved; and a suitable building could not probably be erected for a less sum than one hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand Dollars.

By the contemplated arrangement with the Exchange Commissioners, the City Watch will be provided with accommodations, as well as the other City officers; so that the whole lot on Holliday Street, (including the Watch-house) may be sold, and in consequence of the increased value of desirable — building lots, your Committee are of opinion that a sale of it would nearly produce the amount of the first installment which, in the event of an arrangement on the plan proposed by the Commissioners of the exchange, would be due to them, so that the whole sum which the City would be called upon to advance, would not probably much exceed thirty thousand Dollars.

Under

13 Under all circumstances, your Committee are of opinion that arrangements can now be made for the accommodation of the Corporation and its officers in the new exchange contemplated to be erected, upon better terms than could have been done at any former period. Perhaps the same advantageous opportunity may not again occur.

Under these impressions they deem it proper to report that an investment of the sum of fifty thousand Dollars in the stock of the Exchange Company would in their opinion be highly advantageous to the City of Baltimore, and they beg leave to recommend that a subscription to that amount be authorized and directed in such manner and upon such terms as may be deemed advisable by this branch — all which is respectfully submitted.

Balt 18<sup>th</sup> Feby 1816  
James Mosher  
Thomas Sheppard } Com<sup>rs</sup>  
R. B. Magruder }

// A communication was received from William Whipple — keeper of the City Spring, which being read was referred to Messrs Mosher & Hoelzer to consider and report thereon.

// A Petition from Christopher Hughes, praying an appropriation by the City Council for the improvement of Quay Street, was presented read & referred to Messrs Berry & Wapell

// On motion the following Resolution was submitted, to wit: — "Ordered that a committee be appointed to report to this Branch what further measures ought to be taken respecting the Report of John Davis to the City Commissioners relative to the Cloppers Spring" made to this Branch, and ordered to be printed on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 1814; and that the said committee have leave to report by ordinance or otherwise."

which