

Monday February 17th 1817.

The Branch met agreeably to adjournment. William Patterson Esquire, President, and all the other members except M^r. M^r. Culloch.

The joint Committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following as the Communication received from the Mayor -

Viz

"The Members of the City Council

Gentlemen

The distinguished honor conferred on me by my fellow Citizens, has placed me in a situation, that renders it my duty, to address you on your annual meeting.

I have the sincere pleasure to congratulate you on the Health, Happiness & Tranquility of our City.

From the length of time that the City has been incorporated, the pains that have been taken to enact necessary Laws, but few observations worthy your notice can be expected from me, nevertheless some additional restrictions & regulations I conceive necessary to promote the comfort of our Citizens & the aggrandizement of our City. Viz.

The Bridge commonly called Peters Bridge, is now in such a state of decay, that to expend money on its repair, would not be judicious.

The manner in which the appropriation for cleaning the streets has been applied, does not remove the Complaint of dirty streets. I would suggest the propriety of the Corporation owning, as many carts and horses, as might be necessary to remove the filth accumulated in the City, and that a proportion of them should be employed for the purpose of receiving daily from each and every house the dirt and offal, that might be accumulated in each family, and that none should be allowed to be thrown into the streets.

The Citizens are much annoyed, their lives frequently in danger, and the pavement much injured by the unwarrantable speed with which the drays, carts and waggons pass in the streets, it appears to me that loaded or unloaded they ought not to be allowed

to go out of a walk.

Many of the streets require to be repaired, partly owing to the before mentioned cause, partly to the streets being paved with stones of a great variety of sizes and partly age; it must be obvious to every one, that the nearer the stones are of a size the more regular the pavement will wear - some streets might be paved with large others with small stones.

The upper part of Centre Market is considerably impaired; the roof has decayed and requires to be covered anew. I would suggest the propriety of the foundation being raised to admit a curb stone so that the market be 8 or 10 inches above the street - that the shed part be extended 3 feet further out, which would give the Country people a shelter in bad weather, and that the foot pavement next the houses be made 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet wider, then the tails of the waggons might be turned to it which would not only make it much more agreeable both to buyer and seller but leave the space in front of the waggons clear for all that might be brought in or taken out of market, without incommodeing Citizens. These alterations would require that Market space be repaired; and I beg leave to submit to your inspection a plan for that purpose - the Stones are to be square and even faced, of a sufficient thickness to sanction the idea that the pavement will not require repair for a Century - it would be easily kept clean and an ornament to the City.

Harover Market has never been completed; its situation is an eligible one, and it appears to me, only to require to be finished, to make it the most commodious and handsome I have ever seen, with the exception that the street on the north side ought to be public - I am informed it is private property.

The Butchers are in the habit, on other than market days, of leaving their carts and horses in market space, abreast of their stalls; they are not only in the way of the scavengers, but they render ineffectual the pains taken to keep Market space clean; the public ground that is unoccupied, from the south side of Water street to the head of M^r. Elders dock, might be a proper place for them to be deposited on market days, or at any other time that the owners may attend the market.

The Ordinance for cleaning the streets of snow meets the public approbation, nevertheless it is defective, but only as relates to the unimproved or unoccupied property; it appears desirable that in all streets where the footways are paved with brick