

performed that duty and find upon examination thereof that they are plainly kept fairly kept, and in the opinion of your committee contain every evidence of their being perfectly correct."

Sign'd Wm. Ross, Th. Lawrence, 1st Branch
 Pet. Forney 2nd Branch

Which Report having been read was concurred in.

The Bill entitled "An Ordinance to impose a tax on the real and personal property within the City of Baltimore and to provide for the collection of the same for the year 1817" was received from the second branch, read the first time. When on motion the consideration thereof was referred to a select committee composed of Messrs. Wilson Levering, with instructions to report thereon.

The joint Committee appointed on the application of William Patterson Esquire for permission to extend his ground between Commerce Street and Spears Wharf submitted the following Report. "The joint Committee to whom was referred the Petition of William Patterson Esq. for a permission to extend his ground between Commerce Street and Spears Wharf, beg leave to Report, That the petitioner have permission to extend the West line of his ground, binding on Commerce Street with a front of thirty eight feet, parallel with Pratt Street to within fifty feet of the North line of the Channel, as established in the year 1807 and delineated on a plat accompanying the present Report - That he be authorized to leave a Dock of 38 feet in width, as shown on the said plat, and extend a Wharf East of the said Dock and thirty eight feet in width parallel with Pratt Street to within fifty feet of the Channel aforesaid. The said extension to be confirmed as above described and particularly shown on the plat within the East line of Commerce Street and West line of Patterson Street, and the south west corners of the said extensions only, to go within fifty feet

Channel line aforesaid." Which Report having been read the first & by special Order a second time was concurred in.

An application was received from John Gooding, praying that two lamps may be erected in necessity alley in the fifth ward.

Also a petition from Fridge & Morris & Others praying that a lamp may be affixed on the Corner of Fridge & Morris' Warehouse at the intersection of Charles Street & German Lane. Which having been read was referred to the consideration of the Lamp Committee, viz. Messrs. Jamison & Russell.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the right of the City to regulate rates of Wharfage on articles landed on Light Street Wharf & Hughes' Quay submitted the following Report

"The Committee who were charged with enquiring into the right of the City to regulate the rates of Wharfages on articles landed on private wharves at the Head of the Basin, Report

That by the acts of the Legislature of Maryland passed in 1796 Chap: 45, & in 1810, Chap: 103, & by the several Supplements thereto, passed in 1801 Chap: 92, 1805 Chap 84, & 1813 Chap 71, the proprietors of lots fronting on the water from Pratt Street round to Johnson Street, was permitted to fill out and extend their said lots, on condition of leaving a space in front as a public high way, and subjecting them to such Rules and Regulations respecting the rates of Wharfage as may be adopted by the City Council of Baltimore, which right of regulation remains, as your Committee believe, unimpaired by any act of the Legislature. - This right however has not been exercised by the City Council, unless the Ordinances heretofore passed respecting "Public Wharves" may be considered as embracing all wharves which they had the power to regulate, but should it be determined that those acts of the City Council does not extend to the wharves in question, they will not recommend the interference of the Council, until it is ascertained that the proprietors of the said lots demand such rates of Wharfage as will prevent the resort of vessels to said wharves and deprive the public of the advantages of the extensive landing afforded thereon."

Sign'd James Nelson, John Perry, Peter Levering

Baltimore 24th March 1817.