Mr Hubbard from the Committee on the Harbour, delivered the following report and a Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the appointment of an Engineer and Warden of the Port, which was read a first time, laid on the table, and 50 copies of the bill ordered to be printed.

The Joint Committee on the Harbour take leave to report, that after diligent enquiry and examination into the state and condition of the Navigation of the Harbour, they are of opinion that the obstructions have considerably encreased, that many parts of it where formerly large ships could float, are now rapidly filling up by the deposit of mud and sand from the adjacent hills; and the future progress of these evils will unless it can be arrested by more vigorous measures, than have hitherto been pursued, eventually destroy the present beautiful Port of Baltimore.

Your committee are of opinion that this great calamity can only be averted by an entire change in the system of governing and superintending the harbour, that the City Commissioners, having sufficient duties to perform as such, cannot attend to the operations of deepening the navigation, which in the opinion of Your committee, would require the whole time and attention of an enlightened, active and enterprising officer, who should be invested with all the authority of the City, over the Harbour, and have the entire control over all persons and things employed on it; and to effect this object they recommend the passage of the accompanying ordinance.

Wm Hubbard, Wm H Hanson, J Woollen 1B
Jany 20th 1831. P Lawrenson, William Inloes 2B

A resolution that a joint committee be appointed for the consideration of certain subjects therein mentioned was received from the Second Branch, which was read a first and by special order the second time, disputed from by the following vote, and returned to the Second Branch.

Yeas, Messrs Mecteer, Young, Dushane 3

Nays. Mess President, Millholland, Henby, J. E. Stansbury, Hanson, Diffenderffer, Thomas, E Stansbury, Ross, Munroe, Brown, Woollen, Dancker, Ridgely, Russell, Seyler, Baer, Williamson 18

The two Branches assembled in convention and after adjourning

A message was received from the Second Branch, informing this Branch they had appointed Mess Stoffer, Lawrenson & Brown on the joint committee relative to City officers &c.

The President appointed Mess Hanson and Mecteer the committee to proceed to Annapolis and informed the Second Branch by message. The Second Branch appointed Mr Lucas and informed this Branch by message.

On motion by Mr Williamson a message was sent to the Second Branch proposing when the City Council adjourn this evening it adjourn to monday next; the Second Branch concurred and informed this Branch by message.

The resolution for the repairs of Dugans wharf, was returned from the Second Branch endorsed concurred in.

On motion by Mr Mecteer, the petition of Henry Myers Treasurer was referred to a special committee, the President appointed Mess Mecteer, Young and Ridgely.

The resolution for a bridge at Fish Market space was read a second time: On motion by Mr Thomas the blank was filled with $600 and after some slight amendment was "concurred in".

A message was received from the Second Branch proposing to refer an accompanying petition from Thomas Mels and others to the Joint committee on streets, which was concurred in and the Second Branch informed by message.

On motion the Branch adjourned until monday.

By order
Th. Phenix Clk

Monday Jany 24th 1831

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment, present John B Morris Esq President and all the members except Mr Diffenderffer.

Mr Thomas presented a petition from C A Medinger and others, relative to the tax on bread carts; which was read and sent to the Second Branch with a message proposing to refer it to the committee on Ways and Means.

The Second Branch concurred by message.

A resolution thanking the committee of arrangement of the new City Hall &c was received from the Second Branch, read a first time and laid on the table.

Mr Dushane presented a petition from Jeremiah Hoffman and others for lamps; which was read and sent to the Second Branch with a message proposing to refer it to the committee on lighting the City. The Second Branch concurs by message.

A petition from Philip E Thomas and others for opening Cypress alley was received from the Mayor, which was read and referred to Messrs Ridgely, Carroll and Munroe.