A message was received from the Second Branch, proposing that when the Councils adjourn this evening they stand adjourned until Monday next, the 21st. inst. This Branch assented thereto, and informed the Second Branch thereof by message.

The Branch then adjourned until Monday Afternoon next at half past 3 o'clock.

By order,

S. H. Moore, Clerk.

Monday, January 21st., 1839.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment — present Joshua Gryden, Esq. President, and all the Members except Mr. Buck.

Mr. Powell presented a petition from John W. Gatt, and others, praying that the pump and well at the intersection of Gay and Aisquith Streets may be taken for the use of the City, &c, which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Yeates presented a petition from Amos West and others praying for a lamp, which was read and referred to the City Joint Commissioners.

Mr. Keyser presented the annual report of the Liberty Fire Company, which was read and referred to the City Committee on Fire Companies.

The following message was received from the Mayor, accompanied by the annual report of the Commissioners of Finance, and the copy of a memorial from the Union Bank of Maryland, relative to a judgement lien upon certain property situate on Liffey Street, which were severally read.

Mayor's Office,
January 21st 1839.

Gentlemen of the First and Second Branches of the City Council:

In pursuance of the intention expressed in my message at the commencement of your present Session, I proceed to state to you my impressions in regard to a new organization of the Board of Health, the great object of which would be, in the first place, that it should be composed of men, possessing among them every description of scientific and practical

(knowledge)

knowledge necessary to qualify them to judge and direct the performance of all the important duties which will be entrusted to their charge, in the most beneficial manner for insuring the public welfare — Secondly, to place under the direction of the Board, the regulation of all such public nuisances, as well as the power to correct all such private nuisances, as shall in any way contribute to promote and effect the object of their appointment. — Thirdly to place under the control of the Board a sufficient number of Officers and Assistants to enable them to have every duty performed with all necessary promptness and efficiency — and it will be desirable to effect these arrangements with little increase of the number of City Officers as may be consistent with a judicious regard for the accomplishment of the object contemplated.

I propose, therefore, that the Board of Health shall, as at present, consist of Three Commissioners, one of whom should be a respectable Physician, capable of performing, and who should perform the duties and services now performed by the Consulting Physician of the City, which Office being thereby rendered unnecessary, should be abolished. The Medical Commissioner should also attend all meetings of the Board of Health, and so far as may be consistent with a due attention to his special duties, in common with the other members of the Board, to the ordinary and general duties of the Commissioners of Health. It should be the duty of the Board, and of each of its members, to devote their attention and talent, to the best of their judgement and ability, to promote and preserve the health of the Citizens, and with that view they should be entitled to exercise all the powers vested in the Commissioners and Board of Health, by any Ordinance now in force, and all the powers which may be deemed advisable to vest them — It should also be the duty of the Medical Commissioner to conduct such Correspondence as the Board of Health or the Mayor may deem necessary to open a respond to.

I am fully satisfied from observation and experience, that six Superintendents are wholly inadequate, to the performance of the important duty of cleaning the Streets, Lanes and Alleys of the City, with that degree of regularity which is always desirable, or with the promptness which the health and convenience of the Citizens often require.

In order, therefore to furnish a more efficient force to the Board of Health, for this general purpose, as well as for such other

(purposes)