branch, endorsed "concurred in".

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

By order,

S. H. Moore, Clerk.

Monday January 28th. 1839.

The branch met pursuant to adjournment — present Joshua Dryden, Esq. President, and all the members except Mr. Atkinson.

Mr. Randolph presented a petition from Jas. Corner and others, praying that Coloured persons may be exempted from the payment of the tax on Public Schools, which was read and referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Brown from the Joint Special Committee, submitted the following report and resolution, which were read a first time.

The Joint Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of "building an Iron Bridge over Jones Falls at Gay-street", have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that the probable cost of constructing an Iron Bridge at the above place, including all expenses would be $13.425; and the expense of a Wooden Bridge would be $7000. The above is made, taking it for granted, that the materials in the present Bridge will pay all expenses of removing it, and preparing the abutments for the reception of an Iron or Wooden Bridge.

Your Committee in further considering the subject, have come to the conclusion that it is unnecessary at this time to remove the Bridge now standing, as there is but little danger of floating timber obstructing the free passage of the water under said Bridge, for many years to come.

The present situation of this Corporation, and the novelty (in this Country) of the subject of Iron Bridges, are such, that your Committee cannot recommend this Corporation to be foremost in the experiment of erecting a Bridge of this kind, especially as they have cause to believe, that in England, (where there are more Bridges of this kind than in any other country) there has been many failures, and some serious accidents by

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the falling of such structures.

Your Committee would further remark, that if the Bridge at Gay-street is removed, and a Wooden Bridge erected in its stead, it will become necessary to raise the Bridge, to be built, at least 2½ feet above the height of the Bridge as it now stands, and will of necessity cause the grade of Gay-Street to be altered greatly to the injury of property on said Street, the damages of which must fall upon the Corporation.

With these views they would beg leave to offer the following resolution.

Joseph Brown, Aug. Mathiot, Henry Snyder, } Committee of the First Branch.

Samuel Boyd, James Frazier } Committee of the Second Branch.

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That so much of an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for the improvement of Jones' Falls, approved 25th July, 1837", as directs the removal of the Stone Bridge on Gay-Street, and the building of a Wooden Bridge in the same place, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Mr. Pinkney presented the Annual report of the Patapsco Fire Company, which was referred to the Joint Committee on Fire Companies.

Mr. Metzger from the Committee submitted the following report, which was read and laid on the table.

The Joint Committee on Markets having examined the Belle-air market house, and believing that benches under the eaves of said Market would accommodate the increased quantity of produce offered for sale, ask leave to offer the following resolutions.

Daniel Metzger, Francis Burns, Henry Powel, } Committee of the First Branch.

Wm. Barnet, William Reaney, B. C. Ross. } Committee of the Second Branch.

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That so much the City Commissioners be, and they are hereby authorised and directed to have benches erected under the eaves of each side of the Belle-Air Market house, and that they draw on the Register with the

/approbation/