the present time. Although the Ordinance above referred to, does not prevent the City from repaving at the public expense, yet it must be obvious to every Member of the Council, that a large majority of the Streets ought to be repaved, some of the property holders not being willing to pay any portion of the expense, stating, that having paid for opening, grading and paving, and all other expenses appertaining to the different Streets out of their own private funds, and after deeding the same to the City for the use of the public, that it is not just for the City to compel them to keep said Streets in order. In this opinion your Committee fully concur, when they take into consideration the amount of taxes and licenses which is paid into the Treasury of this City, by the owners of Carts, Wagons, &c., for the use of the public highways, which must wear out the streets in a few years. But although your Committee considers that the City is bound by justice and the contracts made with the property holders bounding on the different Streets, to keep the same in good order, either by repairing or repaving the same; yet they are not willing to recommend a change of the present mode of repaving at this time, or an appropriation to repave any Street, as it would add from two to three Hundred Thousand dollars, to the Stock debt of the Corporation, which will be so large at an early period, as to compel the Council, in the absence of any other income, to levy a tax of $5 to $6 on every man, Woman and Child in the City of Baltimore. It has been stated by some that a portion of the property fronting on some of the Streets, Lanes and Alleys, are owned by Individuals, whose situation is such as to prohibit them from thus improving. We consider that this Statement is not correct, which must appear obvious to every one, when they take into consideration the present price of repaving. For example: A Street about to be repaved running North & South fifty feet wide, two fifths to be taken for the footways, leaving thirty feet from curb to curb; an Individual owning a 20 feet lot, fronting on said Street, which if multiplied by 30, - width of the Street - will make 600 feet, at 5 cents per foot - which is the price of repaving, using the old curb, - will amount to $30, one third to be paid by

(the)

the City, the remaining two-thirds paid by the property-holders fronting on the East and West side of said Street, which will amount to the small sum of $10. By the same rule, an Individual owning a fifteen feet lot, which is generally owned by the poorer class of the Community, would only cost $22.50 the third of which is $7.50. It is therefore the opinion of your Committee, that the present mode does not bear so hard upon property holders, as some people consider from the first view of the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. Wesley Watkins, Henry Snyder, Geo. P. Knotts, } Committee of the First Branch.

William P. Wright, Samuel Boyd, Joseph Hook, Jr. } Committee of the Second Branch.

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Mr. Brown from the Committee, submitted the following, which was read a first time.

The Joint Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Jno. P. Myer to be refunded an amount equal to the tax) for the year 1837) on his lot which was taken for the extension of Stump Alley, have had the subject under consideration, and find that the petitioner was not interrupted in the possession of the said lot until July 10th, 1838, and having been allowed a sum equal to the value of said lot at that time, your Committee cannot acknowledge the claim to be just, and would ask permission to offer the following resolution.

Joseph Brown, Saml. P. Barnard, William Pinkney, } Committee of the First Branch.

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

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged.

Mr. Wallis offered the following resolution, which was read.

Resolved, That the first Branch of the City Council continue its Session every night until 9 o'clock, until all the unfinished business is disposed of.

Mr. Sollers moved to lay the above resolution on the table,

(which)