or declination to accept of Mr. John King, of the Office of a Director of the City in the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company.

Mr. Binder offered the following which was read and referred in

Resolved by Both Branches of the City Council, That the Joint Committee on Police be, and they are hereby requested to enquire into the expediency of passing an Ordinance relative to equalizing the districts of the Superintendents of Chimney Sweeping.

On motion of Mr. Perkins the communication from the Commissioners of Finance in answer to a resolution of this Branch in relation to the Stock of the three million loan, was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Snyder from the Committee submitted the following report and resolution, which were read a first and by special order the second time, and on motion of Mr. Watkins, laid on the table.

"The Joint Committee on Police, to whom was referred a resolution directing them to "enquire into the expediency of Memorializing the Legislature for authority to sell such goods, as may "be in the hands of any officer, appointed by the City or County, or "Sheriff, as also any baggage, which may be left at any Steamboat "or Rail Road Depot and which remained in either place twelve "months uncalled for, the proceeds whereof to be paid to the "Register of the City for the use of the Alms house." –

"Beg leave to Report, that they have given the subject a deliberate consideration, and are of the opinion, that it would be inexpedient to make such application. Your Committee conceive that an Officer has not the right to detain property in his possession twelve months, upon the mere supposition that such property may be stolen; they deem it the duty of an Officer, when he has taken property, which he supposes may have come improperly into the possession of the individual from whom it was taken, to use every possible exertion to ascertain whether he came in possession of it illegally, and if he does not succeed in a reasonable length of time, in finding another owner, your Committee are of opinion that he is bound to return the same to him from whom it was taken.

In regard to baggage left at the Steamboat and Rail Road Depots your Committee are of opinion that to Memorialize the Legislature for power to sell the same and appropriate the proceeds

proceeds as contemplated by the resolution, would be to ask the Legislature to pass a Law which your Committee conceive they have no right to pass, or which if they had the right to pass, could not be carried out without doing manifest injustice to these Companies. The Steamboat and Rail Road Companies, like individuals, are held responsible for a violation of contract: they are held accountable for any baggage placed in their charge, and are bound to account to the individual from whom they receive such baggage, when called upon for that purpose. Would it then be just in the City, to ask the Legislature to pass a Law to enable them to take from these Companies property for which these Companies may be made answerable, and appropriate the same to the use of the City? Your Committee think it would not, and therefore offer the following resolution –

Henry Snyder, } Committee of the
Wm. Tally Walsh } First Branch.
Robert Howard, } Committee of the
James Spence, } Second Branch.
Wm. Barnet, }

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

The Second branch returned the following resolutions, severally endorsed "Concurred in" viz.

The resolution of enquiry relative to the expediency of memorializing the Legislature in relation to Paupers from other Counties in the State;

The resolution of enquiry relative to the expenses of registering voters in 1839;

The resolution on the memorial of the Baltimore & Chesapeake Steam Towing Company, asking permission to use the space at present occupied by the Custom House boat; and

The resolution on the petition of the City Watchmen, asking an increase of their pay.

Mr. Joseph Brown, offered the following, which was read and concurred in

X Resolved, That the assessors of Tax be, and they are hereby directed to inform this Branch what proportion of the additional assessment amounting to the sum of $1,549.714, as stated in their report of the 16th. inst. is without the limits of direct taxation stating separately the amount of real and personal property without such