received five votes, Blank one votes. Mr Neilson having received a majority of the whole number of votes given was declared duly elected.

Mr Moore, the chief clerk being absent, on motion, of Mr Donovan, the branch then proceeded to the election of a chief clerk pro tem which resulted as follows

For chief clerk pro tem Henry W Gray received Seventeen votes. T L Memsley received Seven votes, Mr Gray having received a majority of the whole number of votes given was declared duly elected.

The Branch next proceeded to the election of Door Keeper which resulted in the election of Jacob Glover by an unanimous vote.

On motion of Mr Snyder a message was sent to the Second Branch, informing them of the organization of this Branch, and proposing with their concurrence the appointment of a Joint Committee to inform the Mayor of the organization of the Councils, and their readiness to receive any communication he may be pleased to make. Messrs Snyder & Wack were appointed on said Committee for this Branch.

The second Branch assented & appointed on their part Messrs Hook & Hanlen.

Mr Snyder from the Committee appointed for that purpose reported that they had performed that duty & the Mayor would send in his communication in a few minutes.

The Secretary of the Mayoralty being introduced presented the following communication from the Mayor;

Mayors Office
Baltimore January 4th 1841

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

The charter impose upon the Executive the duty of laying before you, whatever of interest that concerns the city in relation to its finances receipts & expenditures of money, police & health for the past year, and to recommend such measures

as are thought necessary for the future. I may be permitted to congratulate you under the favorable auspices under which you meet; the whirlwind of passion and excitement that pervaded every section of our widespreaded country the last year, of which our city had its full share has measurably passed away, the public mind is fast settling down to the sober realities of life, reason is again happily exercising its controlling influence over men & actions; and with the manifold blessings bestowed upon us as a people by an all Wise and good Providence, it will be our fault if we do not realize to the fullest extent. The responsibility is great upon those who assume the duties of legislators.

Your early attention is called to the division of the city into fourteen wards. By an act of the General assembly of Maryland relating to the city of Baltimore, December Session 1817. chapter 148. requires that when the number of inhabitants shall amount to ninety thousand, the city shall be divided into fourteen Wards. It rests with the Councils to say in what manner it shall be done, whether by a committee of their own body, or by a board of commissioners appointed specially for the purpose.

To aid the decision, the following table, containing the population of each Ward is given

First Ward	7.491
Second Ward	7.393
Third Ward	10,104
Fourth Ward	8,611
Fifth Ward	8.212
Sixth Ward	6 715
Seventh Ward	6 242
Eighth Ward	9.640
Ninth Ward	7.307
Tenth Ward	9.592
Eleventh Ward	9.521
Twelfth Ward	11.655
Total population of the city is	102.513

A statement made for me by the present Collector, exhibits the following result of the collection of the city taxes for the last year up to the 22nd December

Taxes 1839. Collected	$148.214.06
Taxes 1840 Collected	94578.49