the petition of John Boyd and others proprietors of the Front Street Theatre and Circus, beg leave to report that they have given the subject that consideration which its importance demanded, and are of opinion that a change in the ordinance might be made which would prove advantageous to the city as well as the proprietors of the theatre, under the existing ordinance a tax of five dollars per day is imposed upon the managers of the theatre for permission to exhibit - this your Committee believes to be even more onerous to suppress tax, particularly at this time inasmuch as the usual amusements are in a languishing condition. Your Committee upon enquiry find that the tax imposed by this city very far exceeds that imposed upon similar exhibitions in our sister Cities, and unless the object in requiring so heavy a tax is entirely to suppress such exhibitions, they cannot see any reason for continuing the ordinance as they now stand. they therefore respectfully recommend the passage of the accompanying ordinance

Jos Gosnell S H Tagart Com^e of Branch
N Lucas Jr W Barnet J E Stanley " "

Messrs Gosnell & Stanley were appointed a Committee to invite the second Branch into convention.

The two Branches met in convention and after sitting a short time adjourned.

On motion of Mr J A Ramsey the Branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at half past three o'clock.

By Order
Henry M Gray
Clerk.

Friday January 28th 1842

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Henry Snyder Esquire president, and all the members except Mr Zimmerman.

Mr Blakeney presented a petition from George Wilhelm asking compensation for work done in fixing and preparing a room in the court house occupied as a library, which was read and referred to the Joint committee on claims.

Mr Tagart presented the annual report of the First Baltimore Hose company, which was read and referred to the Joint committee on fire companies.

Mr Pressey offered the following resolution which was read a first time and laid on the table.

Resolved by the first branch of the city council, that the Chief clerk, or in his absence the assistant clerk shall call the roll of the members previously at the time designated in the first rule governing this branch, and that the members present and answering to their names when the roll is so called shall be entitled to their pay diem and none other, and further if any of the members shall absent themselves from the branch after the roll has been called and the branch still in session it shall be the duty of the clerk to return them as being absent, unless leave of absence be obtained from the president.

On motion of Mr Gosnell the branch resumed the consideration of bill no 3. relating to theatrical exhibitions in the city.

Mr Cole moved to strike out the word "ten" in the eighth line first section and insert "fifty" which was concurred in. Mr Pressey moved to strike out the words "two dollars & fifty cents" in the fifteenth & sixteenth lines same section, & insert the word "five dollars" which was lost.

Mr McCormick moved to strike out the word ten in the 8th line and insert the word "two" Mr Blakeney moved to amend the amendment by striking it with "five" which was lost. The amendment offered by Mr McCormick was concurred in.

Mr McCormick moved to strike out the words "two dollars per week, and insert the words