Monday February 28th 1842

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present Henry Snyder Esq President and all the members.

Mr McCormick offered the following preamble and resolution which was read, concurred in & sent to the Branch.

Whereas the General Assembly of Maryland did by an act passed on the 4th March 1828 declare that the sum of $20.000 be and the same is hereby appropriated annually to be paid out of the proceeds of sales arising from sales at public auction for the purpose of deepening and improving the harbor of the City of Baltimore.

And Whereas the said General Assembly did by two enactments passed on the 22nd & 28 March 1836 respectively divert the said annual appropriation from its uses and purposes therein stated. Therefore

Resolved by both branches of the City Council that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means be directed to ascertain what amount of State bonds issued in pursuance of the two Indemnity Laws of 1836 remain unpaid and inquire into the expediency of providing for the assumption of the same if any by the City and of making an application to the Legislature at its present session for the continuance of the harbor appropriation according to the pledge given to the City when deprived of the privilege of licensing auctioneers.

On motion of Mr McCormick the resolution exempting the property of the Eastern Dispensary from taxation was read a second time and indefinitely postponed.

Mr Tagart called up the resolution attached to the report of the Joint Committee on claims on the petition of Collin Murphy & Son and others, which was read a second time. Mr Gresham moved to strike out the words sixty seven dollars & fifty cents and insert "sixty six dollars" which was lost.

The resolution was then concurred in and sent to the second branch.

On motion of Mr Joseph McCauley the branch resumed the consideration of the resolutions attached to the report of the Joint Committee on education relating to a high

school & concurrent lines and on motion was laid on the table. Mr Cole offered the following resolution which was read & opposed and by special order a second time & concurred in.

Resolved that the City Commissioners be and they are hereby requested to make an estimate of the probable cost of the erection of a high school upon the lot purchased by the School Commissioners for that purpose & be instructed in manner as the School Commissioners may deem & report the same to this branch as soon as practicable.

Mr Lauder from the Joint Committee of Ways and Means submitted the following report and several bills which were read & opposed a first time.

The Joint Committee on Ways & Means in presenting their estimates and fiscal bills for the Year 1842 respectfully report

That on the 31st December 1840 there was a balance in the treasury amounting to $191.63

and claims upon the treasury amounting to 180.968.37

leaving a debt against the City amounting to $179.066.74

On the 31 December 1841 the balance in the Treasury was $56.565.77

The entire claims against the City treasury including the Quarter Salaries in the which the document Jany & Quarter exception & interest on that portion of stock held by the commissioners of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad & Canal Works 93.255.00

leaving a debt against the City of $36.719.21

It therefore appears that the actual balance against the Treasury on the 31 December last was $142.347.53 less than it was at the corresponding date of the preceding year, these results show that the fiscal year & affairs of the corporation during the past year have been very successfully managed and we believe to a very great extent grew out of the system recommended by the Mayor and adopted by the Councils of pruning the laws of the current year to exactly close

The long temporary loans made in 1840 have been all paid off during the year 1841 and the corporation enters the present year free from any other trammels or difficulties than those growing out of the internal improvements. The Committee however