heavy expense for machinery, hose, and their common wear and tear, while engaged in their laudable and praiseworthy efforts, to save the property of their fellow citizens, and through whose means, much property is saved from the devouring element of fire, thereby enabling the different fire insurance companies to make large dividends, and enrich their Stockholders at the expense of the citizens of Baltimore, while they contribute comparatively nothing in support of said fire companies.

And whereas, the corporate authorities of the city, with authority to insure against loss by fire within her corporate limits, would produce a large annual revenue, not only without imposing additional burden on her citizens, but affording greater security to their property, as citizens would greatly prefer to insure under the guarantee of the City, as the premium paid would go to diminish the taxes, and be disbursed for public benefit.

And whereas, the return of the assessable property of the City is now about fifty six million, on which amount, at least insurance is effected, which, at one half per cent, the yearly income would be nearly three hundred thousand dollars from insurance alone; we would thus provide a permanent revenue to the City, amply sufficient, after discharging the ordinary losses by fire, to defray the whole expense of the internal government of the City, and pay a considerable part of the annual interest growing out of the improvident legislation of the state, and ultimately relieve the citizens from the payment of tax.

And whereas, the benefits to be accomplished by the above plan, would be conferred upon the whole population of the city, instead of being as in the present mode of insurance, to a few members of incorporated companies, many of which reside beyond the limits of the State of Maryland, -

therefore be it

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that counsel for the City be requested to prepare a bill, such as may embrace the objects above specified, and submit the same to the City Council, in the first week of its next session,

session, which, if approved by them, shall be transmitted to the next annual session of the legislature, accompanied by a memorial, signed by the Mayor, and the presidents of both branches of the City Council, praying its passage into a law.

The Second Branch returned the report of the joint committee on streets relative to walling Chatsworth run; and the resolution directing the Register to pay A. G. Ridgely three hundred dollars for arresting H. McCurry for the murder of Paul Roux, severally endorsed "concurred in".

Mr. Turner called for the second reading of the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on fire companies, on the petition of James Lovegrove and others.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Leonard called up the resolution relative to the General assembly.

Mr. Purviance moved to strike out the last preamble and amend the resolution, by striking out all after the word "government" and insert "and we do now protest against their enactment as hostile to the best interests of the City of Baltimore.

Mr. Purviance moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after the word "government" in the fourth line of the resolution, and insert "and we do now protest against their enactment as hostile to the best interests of the City of Baltimore"

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Leonard, the branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at half past 3 O'clock.

By order
Geo P. Woodward Clk

Tuesday, March 18, 1845.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present - Samuel Harker, Esq. President, and all the members, except Mr. Reilly.

Mr. Walsh presented a petition from John Glenn, praying a return of certain paving taxes paid by him, which was