Mayor's Office
Baltimore March 10. 1846

To the Honorable, the Mayor and City Council.

Gentlemen,

I feel it my duty as an officer to lay before your honorable body the situation of the Third District, which I have the honor to preside over as harbor Master. I find that the private wharf property, or its holders, has become so great in competition with the city, that the trade has left Bowly's wharf, consequently the city must lose from $300 to $400 per month.

Therefore I would respectfully suggest to your honorable body the following, namely:

That all vessels discharging and reloading at Bowly's wharf, shall pay wharfage for six days only, although they may remain for a longer period, except such vessels as retail their cargoes. Also, all barrels of flour shipped or landed 1 cent per barrel.

I beg leave to inform your honorable body, that the private wharf holders charge the vessel nothing and half the city rates on all goods that is shipped. Also, there are instances after a vessel has made fast to Bowly's wharf, the private wharf holders have come on board and persuaded them off by charging no wharfage on the vessels. Also many vessels are met in the stream by boats and taken into private wharves, with the understanding that no wharfage will be charged on the said vessels.

John R Carroll.

Mr Collins called for the second reading of the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on ways and means on the petition of the Junior Artillerists

The resolution was adopted.

Mr Colton called for the second reading of the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on markets, relative to repairs at the Centre Market.

Mr Colton offered the following as a substitute

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That the City Commissioner be and they are hereby authorised to have the pillars of the Centre Market House repaired, the buildings painted and whitewashed and the stones reset around the Centre fountain, and that they draw upon the Register, with the approbation of the Mayor for the sum of $250 or as much thereof as is necessary to pay the expenses of the same.

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The substitute was adopted.

The resolution was concurred in with the proposed substitute

Mr Walsh called up bill No 43. entitled "An ordinance fixing the salary of the Mayor"

Mr Soran moved to amend the first section by inserting in the fourth line, after the word "thousand" the words "and five hundred" which was determined in the affirmative by the following vote, the yeas and nays being called for by Mr O'Leary:

Yeas – Messrs Colton, Walsh, Hickman, Bishop, Turner, Soran, Collins, Watkins, Buchanan, Davis, Shaw and Brown – 12.

Nays. – Messrs Dutton, O'Leary, Hooper, McCauley, Hackney – 6.

Mr. Watkins moved to strike out the second section, which was determined in the affirmative.

The bill being on its passage was passed with the proposed amendments.

Mr Dutton called for the second reading of the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on the harbor relative to repairing the walls on Jones' Falls.

The resolution was concurred in

The Second Branch returned bill No 23. entitled "An ordinance to levy a tax for roads and Bridges for 1846. endorsed with the proposed amendment:

Amendment proposed: – Strike out in the second line, first section "Ten" and insert in lieu "eight"

On motion of Mr Davis the proposed amendment was "concurred in"

The Second Branch returned the report and resolution from the joint committee on health relative to the removal of the quarantine ground – endorsed "concurred in with a proposed amendment"

Amendment proposed: Strike out all after the word "Resolved" and insert "That the petition be referred to the Board of Health, with instructions that they report to the Council what action is necessary on the subject" –

On motion of Mr Turner, the amendment was "concurred in"

The Second Branch returned the report and resolution of the joint committee on the harbor, relative to repairing the County Wharf; and The report and resolution from the joint committee on the harbor relative to a pier at the head of Smith's Wharf, severally endorsed "concurred in"

Mr Colton called for the second reading of the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on markets, relative to placing flag stones at the Centre Market.

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