in relation to a block of marble for the Washington National monument, which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Carpenter called up the resolution in relation to a fire plug at the corner of Hill and Sharp streets, which was read, and referred to the joint committee on water.

A message was received from the Second Branch, proposing the appointment of a joint select committee to enquire into the practicability of converting the Assembly Rooms into a City Hall, and appointing as said committee on the part of that branch, Messrs. Ware, Taylor, and Willson, which was read, and laid on the table.

Mr. Dushane offered the following resolution, which was read, and referred to the joint committee on highways and bridges:

Resolved by the First Branch of the City Council, that the city commissioner be, and he is hereby authorised and directed, to have stepping stones placed across Tessier street at its intersection with Biddle street, and draw on the Register for the sum of sixteen dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the expense of the same.

Mr. Quinlin in the chair.

Mr. Cohen offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, that the committee on highways and bridges, enquire into the expediency of placing flag stones across Cathedral street, opposite to the western entrance to the Cathedral, and report by resolution or otherwise.

The President resumed his seat.

The following communication was received from the city commissioner, read and referred to the joint committee on highways and bridges:

City Commissioner's Office,
Baltimore, January 25th 1850.

To the President and members of the
First Branch of the City Council:

Gentlemen:

As directed by resolution adopted by your branch, on 2nd. April, 1849, the city commissioner has the honor respectfully to submit the following estimate and accompanying drawings, for enclosing, improving and ornamenting the squares in front of the Washington Monument:

For grading and iron railing with granite base, in



front of squares, marked A. B. C. D. $20.000.

By a variation of the plan and drawing, the squares can be enclosed with an iron railing, well adapted for the purpose, for the sum of $13.700.

The latter estimate is made with reference to a railing, without granite base.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Reeder,
City Commissioner.

Mr. Cooper offered the following resolution, which was read, and adopted:

Resolved, that the city commissioner and port wardens be directed to report to this branch, the probable cost of cleaning out the back basin from Caroline street to the mouth of Jones falls to the depth of eight feet.

On motion of Mr. Hoge, the branch adjourned until Monday afternoon next at half past three o'clock.

By order,
Wm. A. Stewart, Clerk.

Appropriation during the week:

For flag at City Hall $25.00.

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Monday January 28th 1850.

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The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Jacob J. Cohen, Jr. Esq. President, and all the members.

Mr. Gilmore presented a petition from Elizabeth Morris and others, praying a return of city taxes paid by mistake in 1848, and 1849, which was read and referred to the joint committee on claims.

Mr. Davis presented a petition from Aaron Hoffman, and others, counter to the petition asking the opening of a street between Preston and Hoffman streets, extending from Ross street to Pennsylvania avenue, which was read and referred to the joint committee on highways and bridges.

The President presented a petition from James Mullin and John Cooper, praying remuneration for losses