adopted:

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore that B. W. Fergusson be permitted to use the sign-box before his door, which he has been heretofore accustomed to use, anything in any ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Cooper moved to amend the resolution by adding at the end thereof the words "provided, however, that all other persons doing business on the public streets be allowed the same privilege", which was determined in the negative by the following vote, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Cooper:

Yeas - Messrs. Cooper, Glass, Gilmore, Dobler, Shaffner - 5.

Nays - Messrs. President, Horney, Suter, Green, Lovering, Woodward, Grafton, Davis, Carpenter, Disney, Leloup, Hoge, Shipley, Dushane - 14.

Mr. Davis moved to amend the resolution by inserting after the word "use" in 3rd. line, the words "provided the same shall be removed at any time when directed by the Mayor," which was determined in the affirmative.

The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

The following communication was received from the counsellor of the city, read, and laid on the table:

Baltimore March 6. 1850.

To the President of the First Branch
of the City Council of Baltimore -

Sir -

I received several days ago the resolution asking information "if any decision had been given by the U. S. District Court in the case of U. States against the steam tow boat Mayor. I should have replied immediately that the decree had been entered for the penalty of fifteen hundred dollars, one half to the United States, and the other half to the informer, but as there was a pending application before the president of the United States for a remission of the penalty, I thought I would await the result of that application before responding.

I now have the pleasure to inform the Council, that at the request of the Mayor I prepared a statement of facts in the case, which, together with a copy of the decree and other papers connected with the subject, I laid before the President in person, and after

investigating the subject fully, he determined to remit the entire penalty, ($1.500) which has accordingly been done, upon condition that the owner of the boat shall pay the costs. The official document is now in the office of the United States Marshal. In my agency, in this application, I have to acknowledge the prompt attention and characteristic courtesy extended to me by the Attorney General of the United States, to whom the papers in this case were referred, by the President, as legal questions were involved, and who in every possible manner facititated the transaction of the public business entrusted to my charge.

Very respectfully, Benj. C. Presbman,
Counsellor for the city of Balto.

On motion of Mr. Leloup, bill No. 2, entitled "An ordinance to extend the limits of direct taxation" was taken up for consideration, and on motion of Mr. Shipley, subsequently laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Cooper, bill No. 4. entitled "An ordinance to preserve the navigation of the harbor of Baltimore, to appoint a port warden, fixing his compensation and prescribing his duties," was taken up for consideration, and the amendments proposed thereto, read and concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Leloup, the resolution making an appropriation to aid in repairing the clock at the Independent engine house, was taken up, adopted, and sent to the Second Branch.

On motion of Mr. Grafton, the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on police and jail, on the petition of James M. Johnson and others, was taken up, adopted, and sent to the Second Branch.

On motion of Mr. Dushane, the petitions of Thomas Wilson, praying compensation for damages sustained by the grading of Fayette street were withdrawn from the joint committee on highways and bridges, and referred to the joint committee on claims.

On motion of Mr. Shipley, the resolution in favor of Mrs. Eliza M. Aitken was taken up for consideration and concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Shipley, the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on claims, on