Mr Dushane called up the resolution attached to the report of the joint committee on highways and bridges, adverse to the petition of Geo. F. Sloan and others, which was read and adopted, and sent to the Second Branch.

The resolution authorising the committee on the communication of the Commissioners of Baltimore County, to employ counsel should they deem it necessary, was received from the Second Branch, read a first, and on motion of Mr Dukehart, by special order a second time, and concurred in.

Mr Dukehart, chairman of the joint special committee in the purchase of Federal Hill for a public walk, presented the following report and resolutions, which were read and laid on the table:

The joint special committee to whom was referred so much of the Mayor's annual communication as relates to Federal Hill as a public square, respectfully report that, immediately after the appointment of the committee they entered upon the discharge of the duty assigned them, with an anxious desire to mature such a plan as would secure to the city that beautiful piece of ground, to be forever held as a public square. Your committee have made every effort to submit to your consideration a report at a much earlier period in the session, but they found the subject surrounded by difficulties, and after many fruitless efforts to negotiate with the owners of the property, your committee were compelled to abandon all idea of obtaining the ground by purchase, from a variety of causes which it is not now necessary to enumerate — your committee then determined to avail themselves of the act of assembly, and had prepared an ordinance condemning it as a public walk — but in this your committee found themselves at fault, the sixty days notice required by law, not having been given.

Your committee are of the opinion that it would be an unnecessary waste of your time, were they to enter into an argument to prove the importance of securing Federal Hill as a public square; it is admitted by all who have ascended its heights to be the most beautiful spot in or near the city, commanding as it does, a view of the city, the harbor, the river and the bay, and so situated that no improvements that may hereafter be erected, can shut out this view; the steady and rapid increase of the city in the vicinity of the hill will soon render it too late to secure

this most desirable spot, and your committee believe that now is the time; there are no improvements in the grounds proposed to be included in the square, and consequently no unnecessary expense will be required in the purchase of buildings which would have to be removed.

Your committee offer the following resolutions:

John Dukehart, John F Davis, Thos Whelan, Jr. } First Branch. Geo A Davis, Hugh A Cooper } Second Branch.

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that the city Counsellor be requested to prepare the draft of a law impowering the corporation to lay out a square or public walk on Federal Hill, provided that the damages caused by said condemnation of said square may be assessed partly upon the whole assessable property of the city, and partly upon the property benefitted in the immediate vicinity of said square.

Resolved further, that the Mayor and Presidents of both branches be requested to forward the said draft of a law to our State Senator and delegates at Annapolis, requesting their early attention to the same.

Mr Morris, chairman of the joint committee on education, presented the following report and resolution, which were read and laid on the table:

The joint standing committee on education to whom was referred the petition of Milton A Taylor and others, asking for additional accommodations for the use of Primary School No 3, would report, that the house now occupied by that school is rented by the Board of Public School Commissioners, and they have the privilege and right to rent a larger and more convenient building in that neighborhood, if they find the one now occupied too small and inconvenient for the interest of the school.

The committee therefore deem it inexpedient at this time to make any appropriation for the erection or purchase of a building for the use of that school, as they think the Board of Commissioners of Public Schools, have power and means, without additional action on the part of the council to supply the wants of that section of the city, they therefore offer the following resolution:

John T Morris, H P Brooks, } First Branch. S Sittig Slaffer, Hugh A Cooper, James C Hinde, } Second Branch.