Yeas — Messrs. President, France, Mullen, J. H. Boyd, Suter, F. H. B. Boyd, Crawford, Harker, Cox, Krafft, Wright, Thompson, Counselman, Regester, White, Pyle, Lepson, Woods — 18.

Nays — Messrs. Quail, Nicholls — 2.

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

Resolved by the First Branch of the City Council, that the compensation of the assistant clerk of this Branch be increased one dollar per day, so as to make it four dollars per day during the sessions of the present Council.

On motion of Mr. Suter, the Branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

By order,

Columbus Ruppa, clerk.

Wednesday, April 11th, 1855.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present — Samuel G. Spicer, Esq., President, and all the members.

Mr. Harker presented the petition of Ernest Schley, asking permission to use his slaughter house for the purpose of killing therein, which was read and referred to the joint committee on health.

Mr. Woods presented the petition of Coates & Glenn and others, asking that Schields alley may be tunnelled so as to intersect with Chatsworth tunnel on Green Willow street, which was read and referred to the joint committee on highways.

Mr. Krafft, chairman of the joint committee on claims, presented the following report and resolution, which were read and laid on the table:

The joint committee on claims, to whom was referred the petition of Lawrence Stafford respectfully offer the following resolution:

Charles L. Krafft,
John S. Wright,
Jacob Counselman,
First Branch.

Wm Moulton,
Edward C. Thomas,
John Wilbert,
Second Branch.

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that to Regalle be and he is hereby authorized to pay to Lawrence Stafford the sum of $42, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The following communication was received, read and laid on the table:

Baltimore, March 9th, 1855.

To the Honorable the members of the First Branch of the City Council:

Gentlemen: — By a resolution of your honorable body, passed on the 6th inst., you request my opinion as to the power of the Mayor and City Council to pass an ordinance, prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks to negroes within the city limits.

I have examined the charter of the city, and also certain laws subsequently passed by the Legislature, which in many instances, give additional powers to the corporation, but I have not found any thing, either in the charter or in any act of assembly since enacted, which would authorize the Mayor and City Council to forbid the sale of intoxicating drinks to negroes alone. In those laws, so far as the subject of your inquiry is concerned, there seems to be no distinction made between the white man and black. All persons, therefore, who have a license from the State to vend ardent spirits, may protect themselves under that license, from any legislation of the corporate authorities of the character mentioned in the inquiry.

Respectfully, your obt. servt.,

G. L. Dulaney, City Councellor.

The following communication was received, read and referred to the joint committee on ways and means.

City Commissioner's Office,
Baltimore, April 11th, 1855.

To the Honorable the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore:

Gentlemen: — In accordance with the resolution of inquiry, as to the cost of re-copying Poppleton's plat, I have made the proper and necessary inquiry, and have received the following proposals:

From Owen Boulden, Esq., who agrees to furnish the necessary data, to fill up the parts on said map, that are mutilated, from the field notes of Mr. Poppleton, now in his (Mr. Boulden's) possession, and complete the same to the entire satisfaction of the city Commissioner, for the sum of $500.

From William Sides, who agrees to complete the plat in a workmanlike manner as soon as possible, for the sum of $750.

From W. T. Goden, who agrees to make the copy, for the sum of $200.

(I have used the phraseology of each proposal.)

The plat now in the office is so much worn and mutilated, that the lines are scarcely distinguishable. It is unnecessary to remark that the plat, or a copy of it, is of much value, in fact, indispensable, and I think that in getting a duplicate, we should get a reliable one, and further, a reliable Surveyor to accomplish it.

The matter I now submit, with every assurance, that you will properly dispose of it.

Very respectfully, J. F. Shannon, City Commissioner.