Norfolk and Portsmouth, which have been and still are so sorely afflicted by pestilence.

With those cities our people have the closest social and commercial relations. The sympathy which possessed all hearts, and the prompt and liberal contributions of so many of our citizens gave earnest of their desire that no efforts should be considered too great, and that every reasonable expense should be incurred, if by their adoption our suffering brethren might be comforted, and a portion even of their overpowering ills be alleviated.

After mature deliberation upon a course proper to be adopted by our board, in relation to the line of steamers plying between Norfolk and Portsmouth and Baltimore, our judgment led us (the Mayor approving) to place a medical officer, as resident, on each boat to accompany it in all its passages to and from those cities, thus to avoid interruptions to travel, or transmission of stores, and thus to prevent much loss and great suffering.

Imagination can scarcely conceive the awful destitution which would have resulted to the suffering, if any cause would have interrupted the trips of those boats, thereby withholding from them the supplies by which their very lives have been protracted. While this aspect of the matter pressed greatly on our hearts, we were well aware that the safety of our own citizens constituted our paramount care. We are happy to be able to communicate the fact, that the plan adopted has, so far, in its results, fully proven its wisdom of the measure.

Dr. John F. Powell and Dr. Frederick C. Maund were appointed to the boats, and are discharging their duties to the satisfaction of the board.

We thought one hundred dollars per month, as salary, but a reasonable compensation for the hazard to be encountered, and the responsible duties to be discharged by those officers.

We would beg an appropriation of five hundred dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to meet the expenses induced by this exigency.

The summary of wants, as adjudged by the board, are therefore respectfully submitted, viz:

On account of streets,	$6,000·00
" sewers,	500·00
" health,	300·00
Exigencies growing out of yellow fever at Portsmouth and Norfolk,	500·00

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Wm. M. Kemp, City Physician,
J. W. Otrick, Com. of Health,
J. Gilman, Asst Com. of Health.

The following communication was received, read and referred to the joint committee on water:

Office of the Water Commissioners, July 2d, 1855.

To the Honorable the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore:

In compliance with the 41st section of the ordinance organizing this department, which requires it to report quarterly, the commissioners beg leave to state, that agreeably to resolution No. 70, April, 1855, the machinery in the Laurvale Cotton Factory was advertised in the Baltimore and Charleston papers, and was, with the exception of two or three small articles, sold on the 4th ultimo, bringing altogether net $1,829.65, and that the factory itself and the remaining articles, with some of the machinery sold and paid for, but not taken away, were totally destroyed by fire on the night of the 16th ult.

The Board beg also to report that the following extensions of main pipe, directed by resolutions to be made, have been completed, viz:

In Eden street and alley south of Baltimore st, 324 ft. of 3 inch; in Homespun alley and Little Green st, 179 of 3 inch and 977 of 4 inch; in Callendar alley, 97 of 4 inch; in McElderry, Canal sts, &c, 90 of 3 inch and 567 of 4 inch; in Vine and Carrollton sts, 189 of 4 inch; in Jordan alley, 684 of 4 inch — total, 593 ft. of 3 inch, 2,516 ft. of 4 inch.

Under resolution No. 138, authorizing this Board to make extensions to amount of $5,000, there have been laid in Morrison's alley, of 2 inch pipe, 214 feet, and in watch house alley, to replace a lead pipe, which was altogether too small to supply the hydrants and steam engines attached to it, there have been laid of two inch pipe, 150 feet, — making together, of the three sizes of pipe, 3,403 ft.