The assessors of taxes have been very diligently attending to the duties of their office but I have had but little opportunity of learning particularly of their transactions I will therefore refer you to their report which you will find accompanying this communication

The City Counsellors statement will shew you the number and character of the causes under his charge in the various Courts in which the city is interested Both diligence and perseverance have characterized him in the discharge of his duties and he expresses a determination to bring every case speedily to issue and if possible to final settlement There are some however of complex character which will possibly involve considerable delay before they are finally adjusted

I respectfully refer you to his report

The City Commissioners Report is replete with valuable information Upon entering on the duties of his office he found our streets and Alleys Bridges Sewers &c &c in a very bad condition and was compelled in many instances to incur heavy expense to repair them thoroughly By and with my advice & consent he has whenever a repair was found to be necessary made it complete and durable with out regard to cost, considering this plan the most economical and our streets and alleys Bridges Sewers &c where never in better condition than now In reference to the damage to the streets I must again allude to the ammount caused by omnibusses so great as to render it imperitive that they either be required to substitute broad tread wheels for the narrow ones now used or that the license charge be very considerably increased The judgement and expediency of this measure are so apparent as to require no argument

The Bridges authorized by Resolution No 135 to be placed over Jones Falls at Pratt Baltimore & Gay streets have been contracted for and the work is now in progress.—

The one at Pratt street is being erected at present and the other two will be put up as speedily as practicable

The enclosure at Union Square is also being prosecuted forward with a vigour that promises a speedy completion

The new Market Houses at Lexington Market are so nearly completed as to already occupied

The Report of the Board of Health which accompanies this will no doubt be read with lively interest The sanitary condition of the city will most certainly occupy your attention and I would recommend a careful investigation of the various suggestions of the Board We must attribute our freedom from disease or epidemic during the past year to the unsparing exertions of the City Physician and Commissioner of Health Our citizens are taking a lively interest in this matter and I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Trade have had the subject under consideration and have appointed a committee of twenty composed one gentleman from each ward who have kindly agreed to cooperate with the Board of Health believeing that to prevent our city from being visited with that dreadful scourge (Yellow Fever) this year it is only necessary to put it in proper condition There are many localities in the lower portions of the city and about the waters edge that need special attention The Docks and Ship Yards require cleaning It has been suggested to me that the Ship yards within the city Limits should be graded and paved and I approve the idea it would prevent the accumulation of decomposing vegatable matter and thereby materially lessen the probability of malignant diseases,

In view of the possibility of our having yellow fever or any other epidemic among us next summer and as it is the impression of some that it is travelling northward and that we shall be visited with it the coming season it becomes us to prepare with energy to meet it