Monday January 2d 1826

This being the Day fixed by the Charter for the meeting of the City Council The Second Branch assembled in their Chamber. Present Philip Moore Esquire President and all the members except Messrs Burke and Patterson.

A Message was sent to the First Branch proposing the appointment of a Joint Committee to wait on the Mayor to inform him that the City Council are in Session and are ready to receive any communication which he may be pleased to make, appointing on our part of the Committee Mr Mosher to which proposal the first branch assented appointing on their part Messrs Reese and Mr Elderg to which they informed us by message

Mr Mosher from the Committee appointed to wait on the Mayor reports verbally that the Committee had discharged their duty and delivers the following Communication which was read

Mayors office 2d January 1826

To The First and Second Branches of the City Council of Baltimore.

Gentlemen

Under a merciful and kind providence, the work which has been done within the last five years, on the East and west Sections of the Point and on the wharves west of Jones Falls, has been attended, with the best effects in removing the causes of yellow fever. At the opening of the last Spring a mass of putrefied matter presented itself on the margin of the Cove along Strawberry alley on the West Side of the Point, a proper corrective was promptly applied by covering the margin, and giving it a sufficient coat of gravel taken out of the Falls, and Sand ballast procured from vessels so that the whole of the Space is restored to a sound appearance. It may be reasonably calculated that hereafter if ordinary vigilance shall be used, the prosperous of our City will not again be interrupted by this awful Scourge. During this year some few scattered cases of small pox have occasionally appeared in the City. The first was the case of a person connected with the Circus establishment from Philadelphia. The next was that of a Slave brought through Philadelphia to the City by a Slave dealer. Several others were brought from a British armed vessel which lay off Annapolis and some few other instances occurred; By due vigilance and proper care and vaccination the disease in every instance was prevented from spreading. For a more detailed account of the cases of small pox and the preventives used to stop its progress reference may be had to the reports of the Consulting Physicians and Board of Health herewith transmitted.

In my last annual report it was estimated that the receipts including the direct tax at 2½ per cent on the amount of taxable property would exceed the expenditures and leave a surplus of $17822,