The interest of the city would be much promoted by the imm-
-diate reconstruction of the wharf. In its present condition, eve-
day add to future labor and expense. If the wharf were rebu-
-ilt, it would yeild a good revenue to the city, as well as af-
-ford a convenient deposit for the sediment removed from
the dock, which is an important consideration.

I would recommend a revision of the ordinances and suppl-
-mentary acts, in relation to the opening and paving of streets.
They are complicated, and in passing ordinances upon these
subjects, are liable to lead the city into obligations which at
the time are not anticipated, and for which no appropriat-
-ions are of course made. If I am not in error, my judgement
is that an investigation will show that such revision demands
the consideration of the Council.

I think it advisable that the Port Wardens' line at the south
side of the basin, should be properly designated by driving
piles or in such other way that it may be easily known.

I invite your attention to the expediency of making some
improvements, much needed, at the Hanover Market. At pre-
sent, the west end of the market house is used as a fish market.
From an examination of the premises I am led to believe that
there is ample room in the square formed by the market ho-
-use to erect a fish market house, which would afford con-
-siderably more room for the butchers which seems to be much
required. The eaves of the roof on the north side and west end
of the market house do not extend over the foot pavement to
the curbstones, which ought to be done, and when done, it
would afford a row of benches the length and width of the
market, that would yeild a considerable revenue to the
city. The Centre market requires new roofing or much re-
-pairing. I respectfully invite your attention to them.

I have a communication in reference to the building of
an Ice Boat, for the purpose of keeping the harbor open du-
-ring the winter; I invite your attention to it— I do not do-
-ubt its great importance. A proposition has been subm-
-itted, exhibiting the economy with which it might be
effected; but as I do not feel myself qualified to express
a decided opinion of the plan proposed, I herewith trans-
-mit the communication on the subject for your consider-
-ation.

I have received and herewith present a communication from John
Wilson Esqr a highly respectable citizen, in relation to the condition
of Jones' falls, to which I ask your attention.

Within the past year 1920 new buildings have been erected
in the city.

During the administration of my predecessor, whose zeal I
shall endeavor to emulate, whose ability I cannot— an appro-
-priation of $30.000 was made by congress for the erection of
a fortification upon Sellers's point flats. I am happy to und-
-erstand that an additional appropriation of $40.000. is con-
-templated the present year, and government having become
sensible of its necessity, will, it is hoped, prosecute the work
in a manner commensurate with its great importance to
the defence of the city and country.

Alexander Vattemare, a citizen of France, well and favora-
-bly known by reputation to the people of this country, has
presented, upon his principles of national interchange
in the name of the city of Paris, a variety of valuable books
to the corporation of Baltimore, which are in my office.
The Council may deem some action upon a subject so honor-
-able and praiseworthy, as respectful and proper.

The following statement, for which I am indebted to General
William H. Marriot, Collector of the Port of Baltimore exhib-
-its the foreign commerce of our city during the year 1848.

Statement of the Foreign Commerce of the Port of
Baltimore, for the year 1848.

Merchandize imported in American vessels	$4.988.175
do do Foreign do	574.742
Total imports	$5.562.917

Exports of domestic produce in American vessels	$5.435.450
do do Foreign do	1.079.242
Exports of foreign merchandize in American do	83.341
do do Foreign do	24.330
Total Exports	$6.622.363

	No of Vessels	Tons	Men
Entries of American vessels from Foreign Ports	346	74.801	3.226
Entries of Foreign vessels from Foreign Ports	114	22.996	1.102
Total Entries	460	97.797	4.328
Clearances of American vessels to Foreign Ports	412	90 544	3.868
Clearances of Foreign vessels to Foreign Ports	124	28.058	1.302
	536	118.602	5.170