Baltimore February 5th 1849

To the members of the
First and Second Branches of the City Council
Gentlemen

I herewith present for your consideration, two sealed standard measures of one quart each — one is the wine measure and the other is the milk or ale measure. You will see by comparing them that there is a difference of one-fifth between them — therefore, every purchaser of milk pays for five quarts and only receives four. — and so on in the same proportion, whether less or more, this is a fact not generally known, but it is nevertheless a fact. — and it is high time something should be done to remedy the evil.

I would recommend that you pass an ordinance, prohibiting the use of wine measures for milk in the city of Baltimore.

Yours respectfully
Jesse Marden

The resolution granting permission to the Columbian Rifle Company to occupy the upper room of the Eastern district watch house as an armory, free of rent, was returned from the First Branch endorsed "concurred in, with proposed amendments." which was read, and on motion the amendments were concurred in.

Amendments proposed

After the word "armory" insert the words "on Thursday evening of each week free of rent"

Strike out the words "a demand" and insert in lieu thereof "the occupation"

At the end of the resolution add the words "and further provided that the amount now due the city for rent, if any, be first paid to the Register.

Mr Farlow presented the annual report of the Columbian Fire Company which was read, and on motion referred to the joint committee on fire companies.

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

Resolved, that the joint committee on fire companies, be instructed to report on the expediency of so amending ordinance No 28 approved March 25th 1848 dividing the city into four fire wards and districts, so that said districts shall be bounded by streets running north and south.

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

Resolved, that the clerk of the Bel Air market be directed to inform this branch, the amount of rents collected since the building of the new market houses, specifying those collected in the morning, and those collected in the evening, together with such information as he may possess as regards the attendance of buyers and sellers during the morning and evening markets.

Mr Farlow offered the following resolution, which was read a first, and by special order a second time, and adopted.

Resolved, that the city commissioners be requested to inform this branch, if any further legislation is necessary to secure the paving of the footway on Eden street at the eastern fountain, and if so, what will be the probable cost of the same.

On motion of Mr Stewart, the petition of John Knoblock was withdrawn from the joint committee on health and returned to the petitioner.

A message was received from the First Branch proposing to refer bill No 1. entitled "An ordinance to provide for the accommodation of house keepers, and to preserve the health of the city" to a joint committee of conference, and naming on their part Messrs Soran, Spillman, and Davis, which was concurred in, and Messrs Farlo, Kelso, and ware were appointed on the part of this branch, and the First Branch informed by message.

Bill No 3. entitled "A supplement to an ordinance to appoint city commissioners and port wardens and to prescribe their duties approved May 22. 1838" was received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

On motion of Mr Dukethart the branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at half past three o'clock

By Order
Jno A Thompson Clerk

Tuesday February 6. 1849

The branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, — Wm A Hack Esq President, and all the members.

The President presented the following communication from Henry Geater, clerk of the Bel Air market which was read, and on motion referred to the joint committee on markets.

To the members of the Second Branch of the City Council
Gentlemen

In reply to your communication requesting a statement of perdium rents received; and also the attendance both morning and evening, I would submit the following;

The attendance during the morning hours, both of seller and