Appropriations to February 23d	$409774
For tunnelling Harford run	2700.00
To Samuel Mactier	7.58
To John Noonan	135.00
To Elijah R Sinners	20.00
For Footway at Eastern Fountain	325.00
To Bull & Tuttle	54.83
To Isaac Munn	38.02
To F W Brune & Sons	87.30
Committee on invitations to Gen Taylor	22.70
	$7,488.12

Tuesday March 6th 1849

The branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present.—Wm A Hack Esq.—President, and all the members except Mr Warner and Farlow.

A report and resolution from the joint committee on claims on the petition of John McDevitt were received from the First Branch read a first and by special order a second time concurred in and returned to the First Branch

Mr Ware offered the following resolution which was read, and referred to the joint committee on the harbor.

Resolved, that the committee on the harbor enquire into the practicability of devising some means by which the labors of the different harbor masters may be rendered more equal.

A report and resolution of the joint committee on water, on the petition of Augustus G Mathiot, were received from the First Branch read a first, and by special order a second time concurred in and returned to the First Branch.

A resolution relative to placing two lamps in Fayette street between Gay and Harrison streets, was received from the First Branch, read and referred to the city commissioners

A report and resolution of the joint committee on markets relative to the erection of a shed at Cross street market, were received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

The report and resolution of the joint committee on police on the propriety of repealing the 2nd Section of ordenance No. 18, 1816. were returned from the First Branch endorsed concurred in

The following message was received from the First Branch read, and on motion of Mr Ware, dissented from, and the First Branch informed by message.

In First Branch
Baltimore March 2. 1849

Gentlemen of the Second Branch

We respectfully request you to re-consider the amendments proposed to the resolution in favor of Goldsborough Shannon and Neirnsee and recede therefrom

By order
William A Stewart clerk

A report of the joint committee on streets on the petition of William A Moale and others to declare Chase street, Eager street, and Morton street public highways, — and ordinance No 9. entitled an ordinance to declare Chase street, Eager street and Morton street public highways, and to provide for the opening of Decker street from Chase to Oliver street, were received from the First Branch read and laid on the table

Mr Duke hart from the joint committee on fire companies, presented the following report and resolution, which were read and laid on the table.

The joint committee on fire companies to which was referred the resolution of enquiry as to the propriety of abolishing the present system of volunteer firemen, and introducing the pay system with an estimate of the expense thereof beg leave respectfully to report, that they have endeavoured to obtain all the information on the subject so as to enable them to arrive at a correct conclusion on so important a subject, involving as it does an entire change in the organization of the Fire Department of our city and a vastly increased expense to the city.

Immediately on the passage of the resolution one of your committee wrote to the Mayor of the cities of New York and of Boston, from each of which cities they have received copies of the laws, rules and regulations governing their fire department, with the expense during the past year, and your committee take this occasion to tender to his honor Wm F Havemeyer, Mayor of New York and to his honor Josiah Quincy, Jr Mayor of Boston, their thanks for the very prompt manner which they furnished the committee with all the information on the subject in their respective cities.

In the city of New York the system is similar to ours, volunteer firemen are however exempt from military or jury duty whilst such, and after serving seven years: the annual expense of the New York fire department is about $40.000. In Boston the pay system has been in operation since 1837. the laws which govern the fire companies are very strict, and are well calculated to make a quiet, orderly and efficient fire department