and Orange alley - which originated in your branch

Respectfully

Elijah Hansbury Mayor

The report and resolution from the joint committee on streets, on the petition of Daniel B Banks were returned from the First Branch endorsed concurred in.

Mr Farlow offered the following resolution, read a first, and by special order a second time and referred to the joint committee on water.

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that the city commissioner be and he is hereby directed to have a fire plug erected on the south-east corner of Eden and Pratt streets, and to draw on the Register for the sum of seventy five dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the same, to be taken out of the annual appropriation for the erection of fire plugs.

Mr Ware offered the following resolution, read a first and by special order a second time, and adopted;

Resolved that the judges of the appeal tax court, be and they are hereby requested to inform the council what amount of property within the limits of the city, is liable to be brought within the limits of direct taxation, under an act of assembly passed February 21st 1831. entitled an additional act relating to the city of Baltimore.

Mr Stewart from the joint committee on the harbor, presented the following report and resolution on the petition of Asa Needham, read a first, and by special order a second time, adopted, and sent to the First Branch.

The joint committee on the harbor to which was referred the petition of Asa Needham, asking permission to improve his property on Light street wharf, by the erection of a peir at his own expense, beg leave to report, that a visit was made by the committee to the place of the proposed improvement, and after a careful examination of the premises and an interchange of opinions on the subject they came to the conclusion not to recommend the passage of a resolution authorising the erection of the same. The committee believe the offer of Mr Needham to allow the city the use of a portion of his wharf, to be a very liberal one: but the privilege he desires would ere long be expected by others, and it is deemed proper to stop at this juncture encroachments upon the harbor. The public convenience does not require the peir which he proposes to erect, and the committee would therefore offer the following resolution:

Edward Horney	First Branch	Joseph J Stewart	Second Branch
John Disney		John R Kelso	
George A Davis		John I Farlow	

Resolved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Mr Dukehart from the joint committee on fire companies, presented the following report and resolution, on so much of the Mayors annual message as relates to fire companies, read and laid on the table;

The joint standing committee on fire companies, to which was referred so much of the Mayors annual message as relates to fire companies, respectfully beg leave to report, that they entered upon an examination of the subject with an anxious desire that the result of their deliberations would be the means of restoring harmony to one of the most valuable portions of our citizens, the firemen. For a thorough understanding of the subject referred to us, we deem it necessary to examine into the present state of the fire department of our city. and in so doing we have to deplore in common with the Mayor the numerous violations of the peace and good order of the city; scarcely a day passes that there is not an alarm of fire, and we regret that we are compelled to admit that alarm of fire and riot have almost become synonomous. Legislative enactments have been obtained and city ordinances passed, only to be violated with impunity. The police of our city have made numerous arrests of persons who have been tried and convicted for the offence of interfering with the firemen in the peaceful discharge of their duty, by which their lives as well as the lives of citizens, male and female, unconnected with any fire company has been endangered, and the parties thus arrested, tried and convicted, have in almost all cases been let off, with such a degree of punishment as to incite to a repetition of the offence.

It will perhaps be proper to examine into the organization of our fire department, its material and its efficiency to extinguish fires: the laws for preventing and the laws for punishing fire riots, and from the examination to endeavour to arrive at the conclusion as to what further legislation if any, is necessary.

The organization of our fire department is purely volunteer; the firemen of our city enjoy no rights or privileges not common to every citizen. The material mostly young men, nine out of ten of whom are uninterested in any property in the city: these young men have shown themselves ready at all hours, day or night, regardless of the state of the weather, to peril their lives in the preservation of property in which they have not the most remote interest; not only do they risk life and health, but they contribute largely of their means, in loss of time and destruction of clothing consequent upon the discharge of their duty as active firemen, and this without any hope of reward, that is never thought of.— occasionally a card of thanks will appear in the papers from some one, thanking the firemen for having