Thursday April 5th 1849

The branch met pursuant to adjournment.

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

Mr Shaffer, presented the following preamble and resolution, which was read a first, and by special order a second time, and adopted.

Whereas, a handbill was handed to the members of the City Council on yesterday afternoon, headed "A few hasty remarks regarding the inspection of beef and pork, as relates to the petition now before the City Council."

And whereas, the said handbill contains grave and serious charges against the Inspectors of beef and pork, in the words following, viz: "What good service can an Inspector render by putting his branding irons on an article he never saw (which is the custom) or if he did see would not know what it was?" And again - the utter inutility of requiring all beef and pork to be inspected, is seen in the fact, that notwithstanding the law, it never was all inspected, no Inspector ever made the claim; and the writer of this cannot see how it ever can be"

And whereas, the Inspectors of beef and pork are required before they enter upon the discharge of their duties, to make oath that they will enforce the ordinances regulating the inspection of beef and pork without partiality and to the best of their knowledge and ability.

And whereas, the author of the said handbill is unknown, and cannot be called on for proof to sustain the above charges: therefore:

Be it resolved, that John H Kauffman and William Blackler, be required to inform this branch whether or not the charges set forth in said handbill, be true? And also, how they are endeavoring to enforce the provisions and requirements of the ordinances regulating the inspection of beef and pork, and how said provisions and regulations are evaded? Whether or not they pass all beef and pork they are called on to inspect, solely by the representation of the owner or packer? Or whether or not they use their own judgements before they declare the quality? And also, whether or not they have condemned or refused to pass any beef or pork since they have been in office? And if yea, whose packing was it; and also the cause of said condemnation or refusal to pass it?

Mr Ware, called up the resolution of the joint committee on water on the expediency of prohibiting the opening of fire plugs except in time of fire, read a second time, — when on motion of Mr Ware it was recommitted

A report of the joint committee on conference, on bill No 21. in relation to the removal of offal and coal ashes, and bill No 37. entitled "An ordinance to provide for the removal of coal ashes and offals, and to promote the health of the citizens of Baltimore." were received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

A report and resolution of the joint committee on claims on the petition of John H Williams, 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 report and resolution of the joint committee on fire companies on the petition of George R Gaither, were received from the First Branch read a first and by special order a second time, and not concurred in; the yeas and nays being called for by Mr Shaffer appeared as follows:

Yeas Messrs Shaffer, Taylor, Kelso, 3

Nays.- Messrs President, Farlow, Stewart, Willson, Dukehart, Ware, 6.

The resolution was returned to the First Branch.

A resolution in favor of the City Collector, was received from the First Branch read a first and by special order a second time, and on motion laid on the table

Mr Dukehart from the joint committee on the jail, presented the following report and resolution on the propriety of selling a lot at the corner of Forrest and Eager streets, read a first and by special order a second time, adopted and sent to the First Branch:

The joint committee on the jail, to which was referred a resolution of enquiry as to the expediency of requesting the visitors of Baltimore City and County Jail, to sell the lot at the southwest corner of Forrest and Eager streets, respectfully beg leave to report that, from all the information your committee have been able to obtain, they cannot see that the property is of any value to the jail, nor can your committee see that it will be at any future time of use to the jail: we are therefore of the opinion that the same should be sold, and the proceeds paid into the city and county treasury, and offer the following resolution.

John E Stansbury	First Branch	John Dukehart	Second Branch
Frederick Pinkney		David Taylor	
L G Quinlin		Joseph J Stewart	

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that the visitors of Baltimore City and County Jail, the Commissioners of Baltimore county assenting, be requested to dispose of the lot on the southwest corner of Eager and Forrest streets to the best advantage, and pay the proceeds into the city and county treasury, in the proportion to which each is entitled from their joint ownership in the said property.

A report and resolution of the joint committee on markets, relative to improvements at the Hanover Market were received from the First Branch read a first, and by special order a second time, concurred in and returned to the First Branch,