Monday April 3, 1854

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present John B. Seidenstricker Esq. Pres. & all the members except Mr Suter.

On motion of Mr Stewart, the ordinance to close a alley was taken up, read, & passed.

Mr Vickers presented a petition from Michael Warner & others, praying an appropriation for the repair of Washington Avenue, outside the limits of street location, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on Highways.

Mr Stewart presented a petition from Charles G. Mayer, praying a return of taxes paid in error, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on Claims.

The President laid before the Branch a remonstrance from Samuel H. Sloan & others, against the erection of a platform on the west side of Jones Falls, between Pratt street & Eastern Avenue, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on the Harbor.

The following Message was received from the Mayor & read & laid on the table:

Mayor's Office, Baltimore April 3, 1854

To the members of the Second Branch of the City Council: Gentlemen, I have affixed my signature to "An ordinance to establish the United States Steam Company;" "A Supplement to an ordinance entitled 'An Ordinance to provide for assessing certain fines & costs in the Corporation in relation to streets in the City of Baltimore, approved April 5th 1852;" "Resolution to authorize a survey with reference to the introduction of water into the City;" and "Resolution for paying expenses of a joint Special Committee." All of which originated in your Branch.

John Lee Chase Mayor.

On leave Mr Taylor offered an ordinance entitled "A Supplement to an ordinance entitled 'An Ordinance fixing the rents of the stalls in the several markets' &c, which was read & laid on the table.

Mr Vickers, Chairman of the joint Committee on Ways & Means, reported the following resolution in relation to the petition of John R. Fleischell & others, which was read & laid on the table:

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

Mr Gill in the Chair.

The President, Chairman of the joint Special Committee on the subject of a new City Hall, reported an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to authorize the Commissioners of Finance to lease certain property, situate at the corner of North & Fayette streets," which was read & laid on the table.

On motion of Mr Griffith, the ordinance to change the grade of Franklin & Saratoga streets, was taken up, read, & laid on the table.

The President resumed the Chair.

Mr Gill presented a petition from Capt. L. Hill & others, in relation to the Monumental Riflemen, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on Ways & Means.

Mr Taylor presented a petition from Asph. A. Cooper & others, in relation to the paving of Broadway, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on Highways.

Mr Taylor informed the Branch of the sickness of Mr Suter & moved that the cause of his absence be entered on the journal. This was seconded & the question being put, it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr Taylor, the Branch adjourned with the Mayor & Comptroller.

By Order, John G. Griffith Clk.

Tuesday April 4, 1854

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present John B. Seidenstricker Esq. Pres. & all the members except Mr Suter.

On motion of Mr Vickers the resolution in the petition of John R. Fleischell & others was taken up & read.

Mr Griffith offered the following substitute for the resolution, which was read:

Resolved by the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore that the compensation of each of the police officers of the City be and is hereby increased to the sum of six hundred dollars per annum.

On motion of Mr Griffith the subject was laid on the table.

Mr Taylor in the Chair.

On motion of the President, the report of the joint Committee on the subject of a new City Hall was recommitted to the Committee.

On motion of Mr Richardson the Branch adjourned till to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

By Order J. G. Griffith Clk.

Wednesday April 5, 1854

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present John B. Seidenstricker Esq. Pres. & all the members except Mr Suter.

The President, Chairman of the joint Special Committee on the subject of a new City Hall, reported to him was recommitted the report of the joint Committee of the 3d inst., reported the ordinance previously reported, which was read & laid on the table.

Mr Vickers, Chairman of the joint Committee on Ways & Means, reported the following resolution, which was read & laid on the table:

Whereas it may become necessary for the Commissioners of Finance in the discharge of their duties imposed on them by the ordinance approved & passed 7th April 1853 to employ a clerk; and whereas by section 8th of said ordinance, it is made the duty of the said Commissioners of Finance, before, & in relation with the President & Directors of the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road Company to pay all the expenses incident to the issue of the said certificates of indebtedness, therefore, Be it Resolved by the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore, that the Commissioners of Finance be, & they are hereby authorized to employ a clerk for such periods as may be necessary in the discharge of the duties imposed on them by an ordinance, entitled "An ordinance to aid the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road Company by a loan of the amount of five millions of dollars, &c, &c, approved December 27th 1853; provided that the compensation or salary of said Clerk shall be paid by the President and Directors of the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road Company.

On motion of Mr Taylor, the bill entitled "A Supplement to an ordinance entitled 'An ordinance fixing the rents of the stalls in the several markets' was taken up & read.

Mr Taylor moved to add the words "each" at the end of the ordinance, which was determined in the affirmative.

The ordinance being thus passed, bill passed.

Mr Griffith presented a petition from Jno. S. Donnell & others, in relation to the erection of a new railway around Union Square, which was received & referred to the joint Committee on Highways.

The ordinance entitled "An ordinance in execution & fulfilment of the provisions of the bill of the late John McDonogh vs. Mayor & City of Baltimore" was received from the First Branch endorsed "passed."

On motion of Mr Stewart, the bill entitled "An ordinance providing