The following communication from the Mayor was received from the First Branch, and read:

Mayor's Office,
Baltimore, November 27, 1854.

To the Members of the First and Second Branches of the City Council:

Gentlemen: It is proper that I should offer to you my congratulations, that you have been elected to the very responsible position you now occupy, by so large a majority of our fellowcitizens; and that no sentiment of distrust, no doubt of your integrity, or ability to discharge the arduous duties of your station, have been expressed. This fact renders it as apparent, as gratifying, that you possess the confidence of this community, and I am certain that no act of yours will be of a character to impair that confidence.

A sense of duty to the city and myself, has constrained me to convene your honorable body thus early, there being several important matters requiring immediate attention.

By the existing law it is provided, that in the event of the absence or sickness of the Mayor, the President of the First Branch of the Council shall act in his stead; so that until it is regularly organized, the emergency named is without provision. And should my death occur, he only is empowered to order an election to fill the vacancy. To meet the above contingencies, is one reason that induced me to call you together at the present time.

I would direct your attention to the fact, that the council which preceded you, passed, at their regular annual session, an ordinance by which the city became the purchaser of the rights and privileges of the Baltimore Water Company, and should now be in possession of the property; but that ordinance made no provision for the appointment of agents to receive it. There was, however, another ordinance passed, I believe, at the close of the continued session, in which said provision was made. That ordinance, was not approved by my predecessor, and consequently, became inoperative. It will, therefore, be necessary to reconsider said bill, or frame a new one, as in your judgment may seem most judicious. I would suggest the framing of a new one.

The bill to which I allude, requires the appointment of ten directors or commissioners, by the Council in convention, to manage the affairs of that branch of city service, &c. &c. I would respectfully recommend, that instead of ten, only five or three be appointed, and they as other city officers are. It also requires, that said board shall chose from their own number a president, who shall receive a salary of $2,000 per annum, the residue of the board to serve gratuitously. Would it not be better to pay each member a salary sufficient to remunerate them for attending faithfully to the interests involved? It will be difficult to obtain the services of competent men, without allowing them some compensation. With these suggestions I submit the matter to you,—making only the remark, that I regard it as of exceeding importance, and prompt action indispensable.

After careful investigation, and due reflection, I give it as my deliberate opinion, that if all the water from Jones' Falls be properly applied, and the city has an indubitable right to use it all, we shall have an abundant supply for all purposes, and in every quarter, for the ensuing ten or twenty years.

Permit me also to bring to your notice the ordinance passed by the Council, which preceded you, at the continued session of 1854, entitled "an ordinance for the appointment of agents, to represent the city of Baltimore, in the