Monday January 15th, 1855.

This being the day appointed by the charter of incorporation, for the meeting of the Council, the Second Branch assembled in their chamber at 3 o'clock, P.M.

Present - James Armitage, Esq. President and all the members, except Messrs. Shannahan and Thomas.

The branch was opened with prayer by Mr Crowley.

A message was received from the First Branch, proposing the appointment of a committe to wait on the Mayor to inform him that the Council was prepared to receive any communication he might have to make, and naming Messrs. Thompson, Sulia and Wright, as the committe.

On motion of Mr Beale, the message was concurred in, and the President appointed Messrs. Beale, Crowley and Winter, as said committe, on the part of this Branch.

Mr Beale from the committe, reported, verbally, that they had preformed the duty of waiting on the Mayor, and that he would communicate with the Council in a few minutes.

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

Mayor's Office,
Baltimore, January, 1855.

To the Honorable
The First and Second Branches of the City Council of Baltimore.

Gentlemen:

It is proper that in begining this communication, I should tender to your honorable body, my congratulations for the remarkable degree of peace, quietness, and general good order, which has prevaded the municipal society, during that portion of our official term which has already elapsed; and I cannot but express the most fervent gratitude to Almighty God, for this mark of his Divine favor and approbation. It is becoming in us, humbly to recognize the Power, which rules not only the elements, but the hearts and minds of men, reducing to obedience and submission, what might otherwise occasion discordance and strife.

It will doubtless be conceded, as belonging to the experience of mankind, that in all the associations of this life honest differences of opinion may arise; unfettered minds will not agree on every subject. It is however my sincere desire, that a spirit of conciliation may govern us; that our intercourse may be courteous, frank, and free from acerbity; that an unreserved interchange of sentiments, in reference either to private, national, or general interests, may be permitted, in order that our legislation may proceed without embarrassment or unnec-