After sometime spent therein, the convention adjourned and the members having returned to their chamber,

On motion of Mr Brooley, the branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at 5 O'clock.

By order.

Allen E. Forrester Clerk.

Thursday, February 22d. 1855.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present - James Armitage, Esq President and all the members

Mr. Shoemaker offered the following preamble and resolution which was read and laid on the table:

Whereas, the present condition of the finances of the city of Baltimore is such as to require the most cautious and prudent management on the part of her corporate authorities; and,

Whereas, the rate of tax which has been fixed and adopted for the present fiscal year, as necessary to meet the exigencies of the city Council, fail to create alarm, by interfering with the progress of improvement within her corporate limits, and the prosperity of her industrial classes generally; and,

Whereas, without some enlarged and permanent measure of relief, making certain her reliance in the future, the city may be generally embarrassed, her property holders disheartened, her working classes left without adequate employment, and her capitalists driven to seek investments elsewhere, a result most serious in every view it may be presented; and,

Whereas, the city of Baltimore, in her corporate capacity, represents an interest of nearly $4.000,000 in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, a large proportion of which was the original subscription of the city of Baltimore, to the capital stock of said company; and,

Whereas; said railroad is now completed, and the object of said subscription has been fully answered, and a longer connexion with said company is neither wise nor likely to prove advantageous, so far as the finances of the city are concerned; therefore be it,

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that the commissioners of finance, be instructed to inquire and report to this body, with as little delay as possible, on what terms, if any, the president, and directors, or stock-holders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company, may be willing to purchase from the city of Baltimore, her entire interest in said road - the said Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, or the stock-holders giving in payment thereof, properly secured - the corporate bonds of said company, for the same, with interest payable semiannually,

at a rate to be agreed upon, so as to guarantee to the city of Baltimore a certain income not independant upon the contingencies to which she must always be exposed as a stock holder in said road, with which to meet the heavy demands upon her treasury, and thus effectually relieved of the burthen of taxation, now and hereafter to be levied upon her citizens without some such management.

Resolved, that no sale of the stock received of the company as dividend, and now held by the city, be made until said report shall be submitted for the consideration of the Councils, and it be ascertained whether such measure of relief as that herein indicated, may be relied upon in any way, to afford relief in the crisis which is known to exist.

Messrs. Lepson and Sutro appeared as a committee and invited this branch to meet First Branch in convention, on a sealed communication from the Mayor.

The invitation was accepted, and the members proceeded to the chamber of the First Branch.

After some time spent therein, the convention adjourned, and the members having returned to their chamber.

On motion of Mr. Barbitt, the branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at 5 O'clock.

By order.

Allen E. Forrester Clerk.

Friday, February 23d. 1855.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present - James Armitage Esq. President, and all the members

The Session was opened with prayer by Mr. Houlton.

Messrs. Thompson and Mallon appeared as a committee and invited this branch to meet First Branch in convention on a sealed communication from the Mayor.

The invitation was accepted, and the members proceeded to the chamber of the First Branch.

After sometime spent therein, the convention adjourned, and the members having returned to their chamber.

On motion of Mr Barbitt, the branch adjourned until Monday afternoon next at 5 O'clock.

By order.

Allen E. Forrester Clerk.

Appropriation:

To February 16, 1855 - - - - - - - -	$12,879 75
To removing piles in Jones Falls. - - - -	75 00
	12,954 75