On motion of Mr. Simms, the resolution was read a second time, by special order, and concurred in.

Mr. Sullivan from the Joint Standing Committee on Highways, presented the following report, and an accompanying ordinance, which were read and laid on the table.

The Joint Committee on Highways, to whom was referred the petition of William Glen, acting executor of John Glen, deceased, having considered the subject of the prayer of the petitioner, and believe the opening of Bruce alley, would be a great public benefit and as the Court of Chancery have already decreed that it should be a highway, it only remains for the city to acknowledge it as such, and therefore beg leave to offer the following ordinance.

Robt. Sullivan,
L. Breitmer,
S. Haney,
} Second Branch

J. C. Crosby,
Henry Grant,
Jacob Green,
} First Branch.

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

By order,

Allen E. Forsyth, Clerk.

Tuesday, December 30th 1856.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment,

Present – John B. Contenstricker, Esq. President, and all the members.

A report from the Joint Standing Committee on Education, with an ordinance entitled "an ordinance to authorize the Commissioners of Public Schools to construct a Public room upon the deck of the Ship Ontario," was received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

An ordinance entitled "A supplement to ordinance No. 36, approved July 12th 1856, entitled "An ordinance for the construction of two steam dredging machines, eight dumping scows, and the purchase of a tow boat," was received from the first branch read and laid on the table.

Mr. Kirk from the Joint Standing Committee on Fire Companies, presented the following report and resolution, which were read:

The Joint Standing Committee on Fire Companies to whom the petition of the Watchmen Fire Company and others were referred, beg leave to report the annexed resolution:

Samuel Kirk,
J. E. R. Hinkle,
John R. Carroll,
} Second Branch

J. S. Turner,
} First Branch,

Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized to create a mortgage of forty five hundred dollars ($45 00) or less on the house occupied by the Watchmen Fire Company situated on Montgomery Street, the money arising therefrom to be handed over to said company for the purpose of paying its debts; provided however, that in addition to the annual ground rent, and the interest on the mortgage, the sum of two hundred and forty dollars shall be retained by the Register of the city out of the annual appropriation which may be made by the corporation to said company; to be applied by him to the payment of the said ground rent and interest, on the said loan, and the residue of the sum retained so far as it shall avail, to be paid in diminution of the principal thereof; such mortgage loan to endure for such length of time, not less than five years, as the party or parties lending the said money and said Watchmen Fire Company may mutually consent and agree; provided also, that the said company assigns all its property to the Mayor and City Council;

On motion of Mr. Kirk the resolution was read a second time, by special order, and adopted.

The First Branch returned the ordinance, entitled "An ordinance to condemn the property therein named "as a public highway" endorsed "passed;"

On motion of Mr. Kirk the Branch adjourned until to-morrow afternoon at 5 o'clock,

By order,

Allen E. Forsyth,
Clerk.