Wednesday, September 23d, 1857.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present - John B Reidenstricker Esq. President - and all the members except Mr Herring.

The President laid before the Branch the following communication from the Board of Water Commissioners, which was read and laid on the table.

Office of the Water Board,
September 22, 1857.

To the Honorable the Second Branch of the City Council.

In reply to your resolution of yesterday requesting to be informed "why the resolution directing fire plugs to be placed along the main pipe on Madison street and Bond street has not been carried into effect?" - the Commissioners beg leave to state that one ordered at the northwest corner of Madison and Aisquith streets is not practicable, there being no branch there for that purpose; and the one ordered at the northwest corner of Madison and Ensor streets has not been put down, because there is one already at the opposite or southwest corner, that the one ordered at the northwest corner of Bond and Monument streets would be of no use, on account of the slight head of water there; and that the one ordered at the corner of Madison and Eden streets, and the one at the corner of Madison street and Central avenue have been laid aside by the press of other work, but will be put down forthwith, the others ordered have been put down.

In reply to the resolution of the same date requesting to be informed "what amount is derived from the street watering carts, and under what ordinance they are empowered to permit the use of fire plugs for that purpose?" - the Commissioners beg leave respectfully to state that the water is sold at the rate of two cents per hundred gallons, and that on account of the wetness of the season, the revenue has been only eight or ten dollars per month.

The Commissioners are not aware that there exists any express ordinance permitting the use of the fire plugs for the purpose of watering the streets. It was after consultation with the then late Mayor that permission was given by this board, in consideration of the saving to the city for repairs to the streets by sprinkling, instead of deluging them with water from the gutters, which in many instances, was stealthily run

into them from hydrants, and for which there was nothing paid. This arrangement has also been sanctioned by the new board of commissioners, on condition that it be stopped at any moment it may be so directed by the City Council or themselves.

Respectfully submitted,
Geo. Neilson,
President Commissioner Water Board.

Mr Bierbower presented the petition of Richard O Crisp, praying that action may be had by the Council to have the Ferry Road repaired, which was read and referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Highways.

The President laid before the Branch the following communication from the acting City Commissioner, which was read and laid on the table.

City Commissioner's Office,
Baltimore, Sept 23, 1857.

To the President and Members of the Second Branch of the City Council.

Gentlemen.

In answer to your resolution of inquiry of the 22d instant, I reply: First, that J. P. Shannon, City Commissioner, made a contract with William S. Shoemaker, dated August 2d, 1857, to build a wharf on the south side of the Back Basin, for the sum of eleven dollars per lineal foot, and to rebuild a part of the south side of the pier for the sum of sixteen dollars per lineal foot. Second - There are specifications annexed to said contract which I am satisfied were drawn up prior to advertising for proposals for the work, and are the same that were estimated from by the bidders. Third - The work that has been done under my supervision has been faithfully executed in accordance with the plans and specifications, and I am satisfied that the work previously done was equally in accordance with the same.

Respectfully yours,
Lewis E. Slicer,
Acting City Commissioner.

The First Branch returned the resolution relative to discharging the Joint Standing Committee on Highways from the further consideration of the petition of James Musgrave endorsed "concurred in."

An ordinance entitled "Supplement to an ordinance entitled 'An ordinance to establish a police for the City of Baltimore,