There are but few members of the legal profession who give much attention to those local laws which relate entirely to the city, and consequently their interpretation and execution are principally left to the discretion of justices of the peace and the city officers. The necessity therefore exists that should be provided with as true a guide as practicable to a proper understanding of the ordinances. At the present time the new revision, as far as adopted, covers ground occupied by more than sixty other ordinances, which, not having been repealed, are still regarded as in force, and thus we have two sets of laws on precisely the same subjects. Besides this confusion, in order to ascertain any city law in force on any given subject, it is necessary to peruse, in addition to the revised ordinances of 1850, and eight volumes of annual ordinances, the manuscript laws on file in the office of the city Register. This labor is far from being a slight one, and the only remedy the committee can suggest for the evil is a thorough revision of the ordinances, and, of course, immediate action upon them at the next annual session of the City Council

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution

Saml Kirk, J. K. Howard,
Joseph Simms, First Branch.
J. E. B. Hintze,
Second Branch.

Resolved by Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That — — — be and he is hereby appointed to revise the ordinances of the city, and report the same to the City Council on the first day of the next annual session, and that upon the performance of the work in a satisfactory manner, and its acceptance by the Council, the sum of five hundred dollars be paid him as a compensation for his services.

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

By order,
Allen E Forrester, Clerk.

Thursday, September 24th 1857.

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

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

Mr Keleo presented the petition of William F Murdoch and Co, and others, in relation to the extension of the water main along German street and the erection of fire plugs at various localities, which was read and referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Water.

A report from the Joint Standing Committee on Water, with an ordinance entitled "An ordinance for extending the water pipes and sale of water stock," were received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

A report from the Joint Standing Committee on Water with a resolution relative to the erection of a fire plug at the northwest corner of Elbow lane and Warner street, were received from the First Branch and read.

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

Mr Kirk moved to amend the resolution by inserting after the word "street," in the sixth line, the words "and also on Madison street, as near the northwest corner of Aisquith and Madison streets as may be practicable," which was determined in the affirmative

The resolution, as amended, was concurred in

A report from the Joint Standing Committee on Water, with a resolution relative to the removal of the pumps on Broadway were received from the First Branch, read and laid on the table.

A report from the Joint Standing Committee on Claims, with a resolution relative to authorizing the Register to pay to Holland & Conradt the sum of two hundred and seventy two dollars and eighteen cents, were received from the First Branch read and laid on the table.

The following message was received from the First Branch and read.

In First Branch,
Baltimore, Sept 24, 1857.

Gentlemen of the Second Branch.

We respectfully ask the appointment of a Joint Special Committee on the preamble and resolution relative to a division of the eighteenth ward into two election precincts, and