Talbott, Beale, Hampson, Hamilton, Dunwoodie, Dryden and Glanville – 12
Nays. Mess. Buchanan, Dutchart, Taylor, Wood, Addison, McComas, Harvey and Clark – 5

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

By order

Richard R Battee Clerk

The following ordinances and resolutions were this day laid before the Mayor.

An ordinance to provide for the erection of an iron bridge over Jones Falls, at Lombard street,

An ordinance to regulate the purchasing and keeping in repair the lamps and lamp posts of the city.

An ordinance to open and condemn Callender alley, from Ramsay street to Columbia street.

Resolution authorizing the Keeper of the Eastern city spring to have the trees whitewashed.

Resolution relative to country wagons at the Centre market.

Resolution to procure hose for the use of the Centre market.

Thursday April 1st 1858

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment.

Present John T Ford Esq President and all the members

Mr Addison presented the petition of Alexander Gould Jr and others, praying the opening and condemnation of a street thirty feet wide, extending north from Ostend to West streets, between Light and William streets, which was referred to the joint standing committee on highways.

A report from the joint standing committee on fire companies, with a resolution relative to authorizing Mr T. Murdoch, agent for the Philadelphia guano company, to erect a shed or sheds on the property leased by them, running from Philpot street to Block street, for the storage of guano, was received from the Second Branch and read.

Mr Dutchart, from the joint standing committee on ways and means submitted the following report and accompanying ordinances, which were read.

The joint standing committee on ways and means, in submitting their annual report, respectfully represent that they have made every effort to reduce the taxes to the lowest possible amount compatable with a due observance of the interest of the city in its various departments. Within the past ten years there has been great variations in the amount of taxes levied, which has been produced from various causes. In 1847 the tax was 68¾ cents, and the amount of $48.829 received from the sale of dividend

stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company; in 1848 the tax was 100 cents, and $84.291 received from the same source; in 1849 the tax was 93 cents; in 1850, 82 cents; in 1851. 65 cents, and $109,459 received from dividend stock; in 1852, 90 cents, and $214.182 from dividend stock; in 1853, 77 cents, and $206.089 from dividend stock; in 1854, 103 cents, and $107.101 from dividend stock; in 1855, 118¾ cents, and $165.786 from dividend stock; in 1856, 91 cents – during this year the city received a dividend of $210.000 from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company – and in 1857, the tax was 102 cents, which was levied with the expectation of receiving a dividend of $210.000, which expectation was not realized, the company only paying one dividend of $105.000, thus making the levy short by that sum.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the city, in all of the past ten years, with two exceptions, has had other resources than the taxes to meet its expenses. The present year, with necessarily increased expenses, the city will be deprived of a dividend from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, in addition to which, it will be necessary to provide the means to meet the interest on the loan of $1.000.000 to the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad Company, $60.000; from these causes the taxes are higher this year than they have been for many years, and your committee regret that in making up the levy they have been compelled to report a bill amounting in all to one hundred and thirty four and one half cents in the hundred dollars. With an abiding confidence in the tax paying citizens, your committee submit the accompanying bills, in one of which it will be seen that the committee have included in the levy for the poor tax the amount appropriated to the House of Refuge, the Widows Home and to the dispensaries, to which your committee believe they properly belong,

John Dutchart
John T. Taylor
Jam R Dunwoodie
} First Branch

Samuel Kirk
John A Wilson
A B Gordon
} Second Branch

Revised ordinance No 32. entitled "An ordinance to regulate the riding and driving of horses and carriages, and to regulate boats and scows in the city of Baltimore, and to provide for licensing the same", was received from the Second Branch and read.

The Second Branch returned the resolutions in favor of Robert Halliday; adverse to the petition of Dr A. Snowden Piggott, and referring his petition to the City Comptroller, and the resolution adverse to the