the Custom House. This Square belongs to the City and it ought not to be alienated except for the publick good. But does the publick good require that this Spot which if joined to the Battery or the Bowling green would afford one of the most delightful walks that any country could afford, does the publick Good require I say, that this should be sold to Speculators or occupied by [illegible] rich men?

I know that there are many men who having country Seats of their own or in their family [illegible] are probably indifferent to the employment of this Square. However convenient & pleasant the air may prove in our summers even in our narrow Streets, they can remove to an unconfined atmosphere. Nor will they regret an economy that saves the money of the rich by sacrificing the comforts of the poor. — I call upon you therefore, our Chief Magistrate, to come forward for the benefit of the publick. Glorious will it be to you & future ages and our posterity if the advantages which we shall all derive from this augmentation of the comforts of your fellow citizens. I call upon you & Members of the Corporation to remember, that the publick Good is the first Law, and that you will be individually responsible in your reputations for neglect of the publick Interests.