

ETTA HAYNIE MADDOX

Maryland's First Woman Lawyer

A BIOGRAPHY

by

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ETTA HAYNIE MADDOX, Maryland's first woman lawyer, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on January 6th, in or around 1860, although the actual year of her birth cannot be verified. Her given name was Henrietta Haynie Maddox, but she was always known as Etta. Her two older sisters were Margaret Ann, a school teacher, and Emma Jane, who married Dr. J. William Funck, a well known eye specialist who was an active campaigner for women's suffrage. Her parents were John T. Maddox, a magistrate who was known as Squire Maddox, and Susannah Moore. Her ancestors were among the earlier settlers of Maryland, and took a lively interest in Colonial affairs.

The family lived on East Monument Street when Etta was a young girl, and her father maintained an office for many years at 34 South Street. Around 1882 they moved to 34 Aisquith Street, at a time when that street was extremely fashionable. Etta attended the public schools, and graduated from the Eastern Female High School, then located on Aisquith near Orleans Street, on June 26, 1873. At the graduation she was awarded one of the Peabody Gold Medals for high marks, and a Maryland Institute Membership ticket which entitled her to attend recitals and lectures at the Institute for one year free of charge.

Miss Maddox had a beautiful mezzo soprano singing voice, and after her graduation from high school, attended the Peabody Institute for three years, from 1873-1875. She pursued her musical education under prominent teachers in New York and Washington, and studied for grand opera under a noted teacher of that day. She sang in Gilbert and Sullivan light operas, and was well known in musical circles and on the concert stage in Baltimore, Washington, Richmond and other cities. Miss Maddox taught voice for awhile, was Director of the

Seventh Baptist Church Choir, and sang in the choirs of the First Presbyterian Church and Brown Memorial Church. She sang at many of the women's suffrage meetings in which she was active, and closed some of them by singing the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" with the refrain "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Our Cause is marching on." It has been said that family opposition to the stage prevented her from having a professional singing career.

On June 6, 1901 Miss Maddox was the first woman graduate in the first commencement exercises of the old Baltimore Law School, located at that time on the southwest corner of St. Paul and Saratoga Streets. The school was organized and chartered by the Legislature in 1900, consolidated several years later with the Baltimore Medical College at Linden and Madison Avenues, and merged into the University of Maryland in 1913. The law course was for two years and Miss Maddox lived at that time with her mother at 2641 N. Charles Street. The commencement exercises were held at Ford's Opera House. The graduating class consisted of thirteen members, of which Miss Maddox was the only woman. She stood among the highest in her class, but received none of the graduation awards. The thesis and scholarship prize was awarded to William Isaac Norris, and other men received honorable mention and gold medals. Professor Howard Bryant read the mandate ordering the graduation of the class, and Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, Dean of the Law School, presented the diplomas. Miss Maddox was greeted with much applause when she received hers.

Miss Maddox's efforts to become a lawyer were made much of by the newspapers of that day, and inspired numerous articles with these headlines:

“SHE WILL GRADUATE IN LAW
But Miss Etta H. Maddox cannot practice
in Maryland.”

“MISS MADDOX IS A LAWYER
Will try to have law amended so she can practice.”

“IS ANXIOUS TO PRACTICE LAW
Miss Etta H. Maddox plans to be admitted
to the Bar.”

Members of the Women's Suffrage Association presented her with a handsome gold medal on June 10, 1901 at the home of a Miss Akers, in a surprise gathering attended by her sisters, Mrs. J. William Funck and Miss Margaret Maddox. The medal had the Maryland coat of arms on the face, and the following inscription on the back:

“Women's Suffrage Association to
Miss Etta Maddox
First Woman Lawyer of Maryland
June 6, 1901”

Newspaper interviews with Mrs. Edward Addison Greeley, a law graduate of the New York University who was visiting in the City, and with Major Richard M. Venable “gallant bachelor that he is” on the subject of women practicing law and Miss Maddox's chances of being admitted to practice, kept the subject before the public in the months following her graduation from law school. Her failure to take the State Bar examination in June was reported with this comment:

“Miss Etta H. Maddox, the young lady who recently graduated from the Baltimore Law School will not take the examination before the State Board today. Miss Maddox has been considerably indisposed during the last week and is in no physical condition to make the trial. She will do so in the fall, however, and is not at all fearful of the result.”

In the fall following her graduation from law school, and in accordance with the procedural requirements of that day, Miss Maddox petitioned the Court of Appeals of Maryland for permission to take the State Bar examination. The application is set out in the bound volumes of the records of briefs in the Court of Appeals to be found in the Bar Library, as follows:

"STATEMENT OF CASE

Under Date of October 29, 1901, Etta H. Maddox, a resident of Baltimore, Md., applied under the rules governing admission to the Bar of Maryland for the privilege of taking the State Bar Examination. The application was accompanied by the following note:

October 28, 1901

To the Honorable Judges of the
Court of Appeals of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

I beg to enclose herewith my petition for admission to the Bar of the State of Maryland in conformity with the rules adopted by your Honorable Court. Whilst apprehending no difficulty in securing the requisite permission to take the State Bar Examination at such time as may be designated by the Board of Examiners, I deem it prudent, in view of the fact that some question has been raised as to whether or not provision has been made in the law for the admission of women to the Bar of the State, to request that I may be allowed to submit through my counsel, an argument by brief in support of my right as a woman to take the examination under the law, if the same is seriously questioned by your Honorable Court.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) (Miss) Etta H. Maddox

The Court of Appeals under date of October 30, 1901 acknowledged receipt of said application and

granted request therein (to file an argument by brief) under the condition that the said brief be presented to the court by November 11, 1901."

Following this petition is a typewritten copy of the brief submitted by Miss Maddox through Howard Bryant, her attorney and former law school instructor, who was later to become President of the City Council of Baltimore. The brief contains five pages of facts—a review of ancient, international and current statute law on the subject of women in the field of law, and a twelve-page argument in support of Miss Maddox's position that "before the law this right to a choice of vocations cannot be said to be denied or intended to be abridged on account of sex". The brief is signed by Howard Bryant, Attorney for Petitioner, and bears this handwritten notation: "Whatever of merit there is in the above is due to the personal efforts of Miss Maddox—Bryant."

The filing of the application was duly noted by The Sun in a report from Annapolis:

"WOMAN WANTS TO PRACTICE LAW"

"Among the petitions to the Court of Appeals for permission to take the next examination given by the Maryland State Board of Law Examiners for admission to practice law is one from a young lady, Miss Etta Mattox of Baltimore. This is the first application for admission to the Bar from a woman since the new law went into effect on June 1, 1898. There is a question as to Miss Mattox's eligibility to practice in this state and the petition has not yet been passed on by the court." (sic)

The Court of Appeals considered the application and brief, and rendered its opinion on November 21, 1901 in the reported case of *In Re Maddox*, 93 Md. 727. The Maryland Report states that Miss Maddox filed a petition for an order directing her to be admitted to practice law

if certified to be qualified by the State Board of Law Examiners. The 10-page opinion reviews the law of Maryland and other states on the subject, and reaches the conclusion that Miss Maddox, a female over 21 years of age and a graduate of a Baltimore law school, was not entitled to be admitted to the bar under the existing law of the state which applied only to "male citizens of Maryland". While Chief Justice McSherry, speaking for the court, said at page 735:

"We are not to be understood as disparaging the laudable ambition of females to become lawyers,"

the opinion goes on to say that:

"It is for the General Assembly to declare what class of persons shall be admitted to the bar. We have no power to enact legislation. The courts can only interpret what the Legislature adopts. If we should say that females are entitled to be admitted to the bar, when the Legislature has not said so, we would exceed our authority and usurp the functions of a different and an independent department of the State Government. If the General Assembly thinks, at its approaching session, that females ought to be admitted to the bar it can so declare. Until then we have no power to admit the applicant and her request to be allowed to stand for examination must be denied."

The Court's decision was reported in a full column story of the Morning Sun of November 22, 1901, headlined:

"BARS WOMAN LAWYER

The Court of Appeals Decides Against Miss Maddox
She Will Go To Legislature

Judge McSherry Gallantly Disclaims Intention To
Discourage Ladies From A Laudable Ambition"

After discussing the Court's reasoning and decision in detail, the newspaper quotes Miss Maddox as saying:

“I am surprised but not disappointed. . . . I fail to see how the court could arrive at such a conclusion. The law of our state does not say that a woman shall not be admitted to the Bar. . . . As the State law stands now any attorney who has been practicing in another state for 5 years can come here and be admitted to the Bar without examination . . . yet the Court refuses me—a native of the State and a taxpayer—the privilege of taking the examination. . . . The rule concerning the construing of masculine pronouns as including feminine in all cases where such construction is not absurd or unreasonable applies to penal laws. Why doesn't it apply to all others? If a woman may come under the designation of “he” in a statute defining a felony and fixing its punishment, it is hard to conceive that she cannot under the same designation be brought within the terms of a statute defining civil rights. If a statute require that the owner of a city lot should remove the snow from “his” sidewalk, it will be held to extend to men, women and children. . . . Maryland was the first of the colonies to admit a woman to the Bar. Margaret Brent on January 3, 1648 was by order of court admitted to the bar as the attorney of Lord Baltimore. I hope Maryland will not be the last of the states to give women the right to practice law in her courts.”

Undaunted by the decision of the Court of Appeals, Miss Maddox followed the Court's suggestion and took her fight to be admitted to practice to the Maryland State Legislature, which next met in Extra-Ordinary session in January of 1902. On January 23, 1902 Senator Jacob M. Moses introduced Senate Bill No. 30 titled “An Act to add an additional section to Article 10 of the Code of Public General Laws, title ‘Attorneys at law and Attorneys in Fact’, said additional section to come in immediately after Section 3 of said Article and to be known and designated as Section 3A”.

Miss Maddox was present at the hearing on the bill before the Senate Judiciary Committee held in the Senate Chamber on February 20, 1902, made a strong argument in favor of the bill, and introduced each of the speakers in its behalf. It was said that Senator Spencer C. Jones "distinguished as one of the handsomest and most gallant men in the Senate made no secret of his intention to vote for the bill, and if Miss Maddox had asked him, it is believed he would have made a speech. President Hubner sat in his own chair behind the Committee and regarded the delegation of ladies with a countenance which beamed with sympathy and good intention toward the bill". Speakers on behalf of the bill included Mrs. J. Ellen Foster of Iowa, who had been admitted to the bar in 1875; Dr. Cora Eaton of Massachusetts who called this "not a revolution but an evolution"; Miss Laura Clay, President of the Equal Rights Society of Kentucky; Miss Gail Laughlin, a practicing attorney of New York, and Dr. Henry B. Blackwell of Massachusetts. Miss Maddox thanked the Committee for their courtesy, and at the close of the hearing, Senator Howard Bryant, a member of the Committee, told the ladies the Committee "had listened to them with pleasure; that they would consider the bill with care, and he hoped decide upon it with wisdom".

The issue presented by the bill was the subject of an editorial in *The Sun* of February 21, 1902:

"WOMEN AT THE BAR"

According to the interpretation placed on the existing law by our Maryland courts, women cannot be admitted to the bar in this state, and if they are to be relieved of this discrimination, the Legislature must come to their aid. This is the purpose of the bill now pending before the General Assembly, and it is a measure which appeals strongly to the general sense of fair play. There is no valid ground on which

women should be excluded from the bar, and any opposition that still exists to their admission is the result of antiquated notions. Other states are far in advance of Maryland in this respect, and the Legislature should see to it that this reproach is wiped out. Women have the same right as men to make a living, and it is unjust to shut them out from any legitimate field of effort. They practice medicine in Maryland, and there is no reason why they should not practice law if they desire to do so. The Legislature should open the courts to them and give them a chance to show what they can do. Doubtless they will give a good account of themselves."

The bill was reported favorably the second time on February 27, 1902 and ordered engrossed for a third reading, read for a third time and passed by the Senate on March 4, 1902 by a vote of 14-2 and sent to the House of Delegates. It was introduced in the House on March 5th, read a first time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, reported favorably and read a second time on March 29th, amended as finally enacted and passed by the House by a vote of 54-9 on March 31st, 1902. On the same day it was returned to the Senate endorsed "Amended, read a third time and passed by yeas and nays", a motion was made by Senator Moore that the bill be laid on the table. This motion was rejected by a vote of 19-3, and the bill as amended in the House was finally enacted by a vote of 16-5 on March 31, 1902. Signed by Governor John Walter Smith on April 8, 1902, the new Section 3A, ch. 399 of the Laws of Maryland of 1902 provided:

"Women shall be permitted to practice law in this State upon the same terms, conditions and requirements, and to the same extent as provided in this Article with reference to men. No discrimination shall be made on account of race, creed, complexion or previous condition of servitude."

Article 10 of the Maryland Code regulating the practice and admission of attorneys at law has since been further revised and now uses the alternative "he or she" and "him or her" throughout most of the sections. Section 3 of Article 10 which sets out registration procedure, still carries this annotation:

"Prior to the Act of 1902, ch. 399, women were not entitled to practice law in Maryland. In *Re Maddox*, 93 Md. 729" (sic).

The Act of 1902 which Miss Maddox sponsored now appears as Section 6 of Article 10 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, although the last sentence has been dropped in our present law. This section carries the annotation:

"This section apparently grew out of the decision, *In Re Maddox*, 93 Md. 727."

Miss Maddox's activities continued to make the news, and several months after her victory at Annapolis she was in the papers again with this headline:

"SAID 'NO' TO MISS MADDOX

Lady Lawyer Receives Refusal From City Official"

The matter involved was an application for the removal of a C. & P. Telephone Company pole, Miss Maddox representing nearby property owners, but the quaint reporting gave the incident added interest:

"The first woman lawyer to practice in Maryland has made her first attempt to get one of the City Departments to do something for her clients and has failed in the attempt. The fair lawyer is Miss Etta Maddox, and Acting Superintendent of Fire Alarm Telegraph McCoy is the hard-hearted individual who said her nay. Mr. McCoy says he will do anything in his power for a lady but that in this case duty compelled him to be adamant. . . ."

Miss Maddox passed the State Bar Examination of June, 1902, reportedly "very creditably" and was notified of this fact by the State Board of Law Examiners in early July. Her first public appearance after that created quite a furor, occasioning this reportorial comment:

"WOMAN LAWYER CREATES MILD
SENSATION AT TOWSON

Transacts Legal Business

Has Passed Examination For Admission To The
Bar But Will Not Be Sworn In Until September

There was quite a stir yesterday in the Court House at Towson when Miss Etta H. Maddox, the only woman lawyer in Maryland, made her appearance there accompanied by Mr. Harry E. Parkhurst, an Attorney of the City. Miss Maddox had visited the court house before but was not recognized, and she was regarded merely as a friend of her escort. But yesterday she was formally introduced as the only woman who has applied for admission to the bar, and who has passed the examination, and the news ran about the court house like wildfire.

The employees in the office of the Court Clerk, the Record Office and other departments left their desks to get a look at the caller and to watch her going to and fro about the building. Miss Maddox was all business and seemed unaware of the attention she was attracting. She visited the Register of Wills office, the Clerk's office and the Record office, and accomplished her work in a very short time. When asked by a reporter for The Sun to explain her visit at Towson she said—

"This is not my first visit, as I have been to Towson several times. You know I am not here on legal business as I have not been sworn in. My examination to become a lawyer took place on June 18th and June 19th, and while I passed successfully I will not be sworn in until about September 1st. I am simply here on some administration matters.' Miss Maddox

was attired in a white shirtwaist, with black skirt, and wore a hat and veil. She carried in her left hand a yellow envelope which was well filled with papers.”

Miss Maddox was formally admitted to the practice of law in the State of Maryland by the Court of Appeals on September 11, 1902 and, along with forty men, took the oath and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City on September 24, 1902. Howard Bryant moved her admission before the Supreme Bench, and her name was the first one called, although this was the only distinction accorded her at that time. Her certificate stated that she had studied law for two years and had been admitted by the Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Harlan approved the admission and the oath was administered by George A. Davis, Clerk to the Supreme Bench. “For this ceremony Miss Maddox took off her hat, which she wore at all other times.” She was admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the District of Maryland on March 4, 1911 on motion of Thomas Charles Williams. Federal Judge John C. Rose approved this admission, and Arthur L. Spamer was the Clerk of the Court present in court on that day.

In 1903 Miss Maddox opened a law office at 509 Law Building, located then on the southwest corner of St. Paul and Lexington Streets. Following the Baltimore fire of 1904 in which the old Law Building was burned out, she maintained an office at 424-425 Law Building, located at 223-225 Courtland Street near Lexington. From 1915 on her Directory listing is given as her home, 1631 Eutaw Place. Miss Maddox joined the Ear Library in 1902 and was a frequent visitor there. A large part of her time was spent in handling the legal and real estate work of her parents’ estates.

The first case Miss Maddox filed was in Circuit Court No. 2 in November, 1904, and was an action for a limited

divorce, charging abandonment, in which she represented the wife, Mrs. Gertrude Campbell, and asked for custody of the child, \$7.50 a week alimony and a counsel fee of \$30. Her first appearance in court was made on December 14, 1904 at a hearing in the case, "and it was the unanimous verdict of those present that she acquitted herself with credit". Her court debut was marked by these headlines:

"MISS MADDOX TRIES A CASE

Woman Lawyer Makes Her First Appearance"

William H. Lawrence represented the husband defendant, George Campbell, and Judge Sharp presided at the hearing. It was reported that "in anticipation of the trial Miss Maddox had taken off her coat and hat and appeared at the trial table wearing a white shirtwaist and a blue skirt. She showed no trepidation in opening the case. . . . Several times in replying to Miss Maddox's questions, Mr. Campbell said 'No, sir' and then corrected himself to 'No, ma'am' ". Neither party argued the case and Judge Sharp said that he would sign an order allowing Mrs. Campbell \$3.50 a week alimony pending the divorce case and \$15.00 counsel fee.

Miss Maddox was a consistent worker for women's rights throughout the years, and was one of the promoters of the first suffrage body in the State, the Maryland Suffrage Association organized in 1894, of which her sister, Mrs. J. William Funck was President for 30 years. Miss Maddox was the author of the first suffrage bill introduced in the Maryland General Assembly in 1910, and presided at the hearing on the bill in the House of Delegates. After women were enfranchised, she organized with Mrs. S. Johnson Poe and others, the Women's Democratic Club of Baltimore, and was President of the Women's Twentieth Century Club. Around 1908 she

started the practice which was to continue for many years, of going to Annapolis for the entire session of each Legislature, where she was a tireless worker for women's suffrage. In 1912 when a Court of Domestic Relations was proposed by members of the Baltimore judiciary, she was quoted as being in favor of the idea, and as advocating a feminine jury to try divorce cases:

“The greatest good that might be accomplished by it, it seems to me”, she said in speaking of the proposed court, “will be the doing away with the taking of testimony by an examiner. If there were a special court to adjust all domestic problems, it is probable these troubles would be threshed out in the court itself. The present system of secrecy regarding divorces is to be condemned. Collusion and connivance between the two parties seeking divorce is too easily possible as things now exist. A great many cases in which divorces are now granted would never come into the divorce court at all if a hearing of the family difficulties in public was the price to be paid. This might work some hardships, but as a general proposition, a court that will try all divorce cases fully in the open will accomplish more good than harm. Judging from the experience I have had in divorce cases and from the research work I have done through the records of divorce cases in the courts, I am of the opinion that more than simply the formation of a special court to handle divorce cases is necessary if we would eradicate this evil. Legislation of a drastic nature is needed.

“If some sort of uniform divorce laws could be enacted, it would be a step in the right direction. There should be more stringent laws regarding the remarriage of divorced persons. I should say three years from the date of the granting of the decree for the guilty person and at least a year for the other party to the divorce should be stipulated as the time during which they could not remarry in any state.

...

“There is one point that I should like to suggest in speaking of this Court of Domestic Relations”, said Miss Maddox after thinking the matter over a bit. “The only trouble is, my suggestion sounds a little too radical just at this time to be taken seriously. But I have always thought, after witnessing the conduct of divorce cases in our courts, that I should like to see these cases tried before a jury, and where the complainant is a woman, by a woman jury. As the courts now stand, of course this is impossible, but it is what I should like to see if a special court for such cases should be established in Baltimore.”

It was inevitable that such an outspoken and determined woman should receive some unfavorable publicity. On January 21, 1916 the following article appeared in *The Sun*:

“SAMUEL BROWN—‘MOSSBACK’

The Delegate from Annapolis Has An Argument With A Suffragist

Annapolis, January 20—Maryland suffragists, to judge from the indignant outburst of one of the ubiquitous ‘flying squadrons’ of women that have swooped down on the Maryland Legislature, are disappointed in that body. To quote one of them at random, from a running debate with Delegate Samuel Brown of Allegany at his desk on the floor of the House, they are ‘a bunch of mossbacks’.

She was an elderly lady, dressed all in black, and she sat down at the desk next to Delegate Brown during a lull in the session. Most of the delegates run when they see the earmarks of suffrage in a female State House visitor; others adopt jocularities or indifference. For instance, Delegate Howard Bryant of Baltimore County kept his hat on and swapped jokes with his would be nemesis.

But running and jocularities were not for Delegate Brown. Being a Scotchman and loving an argu-

ment, he wheeled around and the debate began. It was mild enough at first. But Delegate Brown wanted to know things and asked questions that the elderly suffragist thought foolish. Members nearby who caught a word now and then moved a bit nearer, and soon Delegate Brown and the suffragist, leaning toward each other and gesticulating in their earnestness, were the center of a delighted group. 'Women were expecting to find a body of intelligent men', said the suffragist, 'but I must say you are a bunch of mossbacks. Now Mr. Brown, are you a mossback or an intelligent man?' 'I'm a legislator, madam', said Brown, 'and I'm down here representing the people in my county'.

Just then somebody poked through the crowd and called to Brown 'Senator Zihlman wants to see you in the hall'. 'Tell him I'm busy', said Brown, and then thinking better of it, he got up to go. The crowd broke into howls.

'Don't quit under fire, Brown!' 'Stick to 'em!' 'Don't run!' Delegate Brown sat down. 'How about the women; are you representing them?' persisted the interviewer. 'I certainly am' answered Brown, 'but the women in my county have something else to do besides run around the state like some women I know!' The suffragist became indignant. 'I would have you know, Mr. Brown', she said, 'that we are the busiest women in the State of Maryland'. 'Heaven knows that's true!' gasped Brown, 'and Heaven help the men you've got!' 'And don't think, madam', he continued, 'that you can come down here and bullyrag us into suffrage. That isn't the way to do it.' The suffragist turned to a woman companion. 'Come along, Ella', she said, 'there's another mossback in the House'."

Although no name had been given to the subject of this article, Miss Maddox was not one to dodge an issue, and the next day's newspaper carried a detailed account of her disapproval of the appellations, and her identification with them, in this manner:

“SUFFRAGIST PROTESTS

Being Called ‘Lady In Black’ Displeases Miss Maddox
Will Stand for ‘Elderly’

Lawyer Also Denies She Referred To All Legislators
As ‘Mossbacks’

Miss Etta H. Maddox, the first woman to be authorized to practice law in the State, feels aggrieved at the story that appeared in The Sun yesterday relating the adventures of Delegate Brown of Allegany with a suffragist who is referred to as ‘an elderly lady dressed all in black’.

She was perfectly willing to pass up the ‘elderly’ part of the designation; that did not offend her. Her friends, she said, knew her age, and as for the others, it was none of their business. But she thought that the ‘woman in black’ part of it was decidedly objectionable. She had a name; it was fairly well known, she thought, and she preferred to have it used when any reference was made to her. . . . She was down at Annapolis permanently for the session, she said, as she had been at each session for the last 12 years, and she expected to attend every session in the future until the women are given what they believe to be their due in the matter of suffrage. . . .

‘We who believe that women are entitled to the right of suffrage,’ said Miss Maddox, ‘and who are trying to convince the members of the Legislature that they ought to give it to us, are in Annapolis on a serious business. We are serious and earnest women working for a cause we believe to be right and just. We do not like being made objects of ridicule. Many men do not agree with us and we find no fault with them for that, if their objection to women suffrage is based on thought and earnest consideration of the subject. But we do object to any legislator refusing to consider the subject which is being seriously considered by most of the civilized nations of the world.’ . . .

‘Men like Delegate Brown who seems to have closed his mind entirely on the subject, who will not even think about it, we do not hope to convince and we let them alone. Had I known the manner of man he was, I should not have wasted his time or mine in discussing the matter with him. But at least I expected from him what I and others who are working with me have received from other members of the Legislature—courtesy and a respectful hearing for an important matter, presented in a courteous and respectful manner.’ ”

Some six years after this episode, Miss Maddox was reported to have retired from active law practice, but the next day a correction was printed stating that she was still engaged in practice, although maintaining no office. Officers of the Democratic Women’s Club called on Mayor Jackson in 1924 and recommended Miss Maddox for appointment to the School Board, following her endorsement at a meeting of the Club’s Board of Governors, but apparently this recommendation was not followed by an appointment. Miss Maddox was the Parliamentarian of the Democratic Women’s Club and spoke to members on the subject of “Glimpses Into The Federal Constitution” at a meeting in the Royal Arcanum in February, 1926, at which meeting a number of women lawyers were present. She made a similar talk at a meeting of the Twentieth Century Club at the Hotel Emerson several months later.

Her sister Margaret Ann Maddox died on February 5, 1918, and Mrs. J. William Funck died on March 21, 1940. Miss Maddox died at the home of her sister, Mrs. J. William Funck, 1515 Eutaw Place, at 12:30 P. M. on February 19, 1933, after a serious illness of 7 weeks, and after having been in failing health for some 5 years. She was attended in her last illness by Dr. Charles C. W. Judd and a nurse, Sophia Fountain. A luncheon

scheduled by the Women's Democratic Luncheon Club of Baltimore, of which she was Chairman of the Advisory Board, was cancelled because of her death. Representatives of women's political, legal, musical and educational circles attended her funeral services on February 22, 1933 at the Mitchell Funeral Home at 1900 Eutaw Place. Representatives of the Women's Bar Association of Baltimore read a prayer and acted as honorary pallbearers at the service, and members of the Democratic Women's Luncheon Club of Baltimore, The Women's Twentieth Century Club, The Eastern High School Alumnae and the National Woman's party were in attendance. The services were conducted by the Rev. F. R. Sturtevant, Minister of the First Unitarian Church, assisted by the Rev. Carroll Coale of Washington, a cousin of Miss Maddox. Miss Maddox died intestate, much of her property having been held jointly with her sister, Mrs. J. William Funck, who was Administratrix and the sole heir and distributee of the estate. Administration proceedings were handled by Emilie A. Doetsch, Baltimore's first woman Assistant City Solicitor. Miss Mary Elizabeth Ward, a niece of Dr. Funck who lived with the Maddox sisters, lives today at 1734 Bolton Street, in the City of Baltimore.

Miss Maddox is buried on the hill near the chapel in Greenmount Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland, in the Maddox family plot with her sisters and parents. On her tombstone is a design of the scales of justice, and under it this inscription:

MARYLAND'S FIRST WOMAN LAWYER
 ETTA HAYNIE MADDOX
 DIED FEBRUARY 19, 1933
 GRADUATED IN LAW IN 1900
 ADMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW IN THE
 STATE OF MARYLAND IN 1902
 AND THE DISTRICT COURTS OF THE
 UNITED STATES IN 1911

She was memorialized, along with other deceased members of the Bar, by the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City and the Bar Association of Baltimore City in memorial services held in the Court House in January of the year following her death. Burdette B. Webster was President of the Bar Association who paid respects to the memory of departed friends, and William Pepper Constable gave the Chairman's report of the Committee on Legal Biography. Francis I. Mooney prepared the biographical sketch of Miss Maddox which was presented at the memorial proceedings and is filed among the permanent records of the Supreme Bench. The memorial proceedings are reported in detail in the Daily Record of January 8, 1934.

People who knew her say that she was a woman whose face and appearance showed her determination. Women lawyers are grateful for that spirit of determination which has made it possible for them also to practice law in the State of Maryland. In commemoration of the pioneer spirit which paved the way, the Women's Bar Association of Baltimore City has presented a restored and enlarged picture of her bearing the inscription

ETTA HAYNIE MADDOX

1860-1933

with this biography, to the Baltimore Bar Library on the 17th anniversary of her death, February 19, 1950. Members of the Committee of the Women's Bar Association making the presentation are Margaret S. Wright, Chairman, Helen Elizabeth Brown, Rose S. Zetzer, Hollis Atkinson and Emma S. Robertson, President.