File No. 505 Continued. CORRESPONDENCE. of illegal commitment? If so, will your office take the necessary legal steps on behalf of the Supervisors? Only notorious cases would be dealt with as suggested. The Supervisors do not wish to make unnecessary trouble for your office, the magistrates or themselves. If your decision is that such a remedy as is above indicated is possible they may be able, by using that fact, to prevent the abuse mentioned without recourse to law. Believe me to be, Very truly, etc., (Signed) Jeffrey R. Brackett, President. OPINION. File No. 505. LAW DEPARTMENT. Baltimore, December 11, 1903. Hon. W. Cabell Bruce, City Solicitor. Dear Sir:-I beg to make the following report in reference to the matters referred to in the letter of Mr. Brackett, dated December 8th. It is very evident, under Section 868 of the Charter, that 757 magistrates should only commit to the Almshouse paupers or habitual beggars who may not be able-bodied but who are aged or seriously crippled or infirm; and, unless there are other provisions contained in the laws giving them the power to commit other classes of offenders, if they do as a matter of fact commit persons who are able-bodied, even though they may be paupers or habitual beggars, vagrants or vagabonds, their commitment is illegal. I can find nowhere, except in Section 868, any authority 758 under which magistrates can commit to the Almshouse. It is true Section 114 of the City Charter says that the Superintendent of the Almshouse shall keep a regular list of all poor, beggars, wagrants, wagabonds and offenders who shall be committed to the said Almshouse; but, when you go to look for any provision of law justifying the commitment of offend-