File No. 1338 Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

Baltimore, June 30, 1904.

Edgar Allan Poe, Esq.,

Deputy City Solicitor.

Dear Sir:-

I hereby refer to you for a report, a letter dated the 29th inst. from the City Engineer, the Chief Engineer of the Topographical Burvey and the City Surveyor to myself, with reference to the best method of establishing the building lines in the Burnt District.

The provisions for establishing building lines in the Burnt District Commission Act, as you know, are quite cumbrous and circuitous, and the writers of the communication above mentioned inform me that the provisions in the City Code with reference to the establishment of building lines, to which I referred them, can be carried into effect only subject to many practical difficulties.

The thought occurred to the Burnt District Commission that they might avail themselves of the section of the Burnt District Commission Act, which gives the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, within certain limits, the authority to enlarge the powers of the Commission, by obtaining an ordinance enabling the Commission to establish building lines in the Burnt District by some simpler method of procedure than the method of procedure expressly pointed out by the Burnt District Commission Act, but such an ordinance, it seems to me, would be inconsistent with these express provisions of the Burnt District Commission Act, and would therefore, being in conflict with the Act, be nugatory and void.

Will you not please take the whole subject up with the Commission and the writers of the communication above mentioned, and let me have the results of your investigation and reflection.

I might add in conclusion, that you will realize that one great advantage in bringing the establishment of building lines under the jurisdiction of the Burnt District Commission would be the fact that the cost of establishment would then be payable out of the Western Maryland Fund. Perhaps, however, you may arrive at the conclusion that the agency for establishing the building lines may be some other agency than the Burnt District Commission, and yet the cost still

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