

File No. 8655 Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

Baltimore, August 24, 1908.

Edward D. Preston, Esq.,
Inspector of Buildings.

Dear Sir:-

6516

I am in receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, relative to the effect of the new Building Code in the matter of house numbering. Prior to the approval of that Code by the Mayor, on June 19, 1908, the numbering and re-numbering of houses, under the authority granted to the City by Section 6 of the City Charter, Paragraph - Numbering houses - to regulate the numbering of houses, was regulated by Ordinance No. 195, April 22, 1899, (Sections 8, 9, 10 and 11 of Article 39 of Pielert's Compilation, and certain Ordinances embodied in Section 120 of Article 3 of Pielert's Compilation). These legislative provisions recognize and expressly or impliedly adopt the results of the re-numbering of houses in the City of Baltimore, performed under its contract with J. Vernon Campbell, and provide merely for the correction of errors, irregularities and omission developed by the workings of the decimal system of numeration carried into effect by J. Vernon Campbell, pursuant to Ordinance No. 78 of 1886, and for the extension of the same system into the Annex.

6517

The decimal system of numbering houses, adopted by J. Vernon Campbell, is, therefore, still in force, and must be the basis of every thing done by the Inspector of Buildings, in the matter of numbering and re-numbering houses under the new Building Code. Under the provisions of that Code his powers are limited to the determining and fixing the numbers of new buildings, that is to say, buildings not already constructed at the time that the Building Code went into effect, except that, in case of duplications or other irregularities in the numbers of buildings already constructed at that time, he may determine what changes, if any, shall be made, but no matter what he does, whether it be to determine and fix the numbers of new houses, or to rectify such duplications or other irregularities as to old buildings, he must adhere to the decimal system of numeration which he found in existence at the time that the Building Code took effect.

Truly yours,
(Signed) W. Cabell Bruce,
City Solicitor.