

File No. 8792.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS,
SUB-DEPARTMENT OF CITY ENGINEER.

Baltimore, September-28, 1908.

Edgar Allan Poe, Esq.,
City Solicitor.

Dear Sir:-

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I hand you herewith some correspondence in connection with a pole at the corner of German and Greene streets, which pole was in an unsafe condition. The Maryland Telephone Company acted in a very arbitrary and arrogant way with regard to this pole. Notwithstanding the fact that they had wires on it, they never reported the pole in their list of poles, and when it became dangerous and this Department was called upon to protect the public from the falling of the pole, they refused to do anything. Mr. Preston was called in and threatened to cut the wires, whereupon the Maryland Telephone Company removed the wires but refused to remove the pole.

It occurs to me that whether they claimed ownership or disclaimed ownership, as long as they used the pole, they should have reported it for taxation, and not having so reported it, that it would be a good thing to proceed against them and impose the fine of \$10. per day, as provided by ordinance, the fine to run for each and every day from the time they first placed the wires on the pole to today. The exact time of placing the wires we have not yet been able to obtain, but probably can obtain it, and in the event of our doing so, will let you know later.

We do know as a matter of fact that the wires of the Maryland Telephone Company were on this pole January 1st, 1908, when they made their last return, and on this basis about \$3,000 would be due by this company.

Please return the enclosed correspondence with your reply.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) B. T. Fendall.

City Engineer.