

File No. 20000

Baltimore, January 12, 1916.

Mr. S. S. Field,  
City Solicitor.

Dear Sir:

072 The railing around Druid Lake was damaged on September 4th last by automobile No. 19283 owned by J. Brian, 3rd, of Pumphrey, Md. According to the best information I have on this subject, this machine was being driven by Phillip Freeman, colored, 1919 Brunt street, who was instructing David Flax of 2047 Pennsylvania avenue how to run the machine. The amount of the damage to the railing was \$24.75.

There were no witnesses to the accident other than the two men mentioned as being in the machine at the time. Mess. Bagby and Bear, attorneys, for Mr. Brian, state that, in their judgment, he is not responsible for the damage and refuses to pay the bill. They base their opinion upon their statement that Mr. Brian was in a hospital at the time of the accident and that the machine was being used without his authority.

Will you kindly advise me whether Mr. Brian is responsible for this bill, and if not, to whom we shall look for payment.

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) Walter E. Lee,  
Water Engineer.