

and together with the proceeds of all fines, forfeitures, penalties, and unclaimed property which may come to the possession of the board, or be recovered by them under the provisions of this article or any other law, shall form a fund, which the board may apply towards the allowances to policemen and officers of police, and their families, as hereinbefore authorized, and for extra pay to such members of the force as by gallantry and good conduct on extraordinary occasions may be judged to merit it.

815*. The said board shall be, and they are hereby, authorized to provide themselves with such office, and office furniture and other things, and such clerks and other subordinates, as they may need, and to have and use a common seal: they shall divide the city into the needful number of police districts, and provide, if necessary, in each of them a station house or houses, with all things and attendants required for the same, and all such other accommodations as may be requisite for the police; the said board, for the purposes of this article, shall have the use of the fire-alarm and police telegraph in said city, and of all station houses, watch boxes, arms, accoutrements, and other accommodations and things provided by the mayor and city council of Baltimore, for the use and service of the police created by said mayor and city council, as fully and to the same extent as the same are now or may be used by or for the said city police, and the said mayor and city council, and all persons and municipal officers in charge thereof, are hereby ordered and required to allow such use accordingly; in case the said mayor and city council, or its officers or agents, refuse or neglect to allow such use as and when the same shall be required by said board, the said board may apply to the Superior Court of Baltimore city, in the name of the State, for a mandamus, to compel a compliance with the provisions of this section, and the application therefor shall be heard and decided by the court. One week's notice of the application shall be given, and the respondent or respondents shall have the right to answer within the week; and if testimony be needed on either side, the same shall be taken within ten days after the answer is filed or the said week shall have expired; from the decision of the Superior Court in the premises either party may appeal within ten days, and it shall be the duty of the clerk to send up the record immediately, and the appeal shall be heard by the Court of Appeals if then in session, and if not in session, at the next term. In both courts the case shall be taken up and tried in preference to all others.