

received by them for serving warrants, writs & precepts & all donations for services rendered by them in their official capacity.

In March of the present year after Stanley had ceased to be a police officer he presented to the Department his claim for the reward.

Under the Ordinance cited above, I entertain some doubt as to whom the reward in this case justly belongs, whether to Stanley or to the City of Baltimore.

I beg leave to call your attention to the subject & request that you will inform me, whether in your opinion reward of the kind now embraced by the language of the Ordinance.

I enclose to you a copy of the letter of Stanley of the 2^d April, with a Certificate from R. W. McHenry, the Clerk of the Sheriff of Baltimore City at that time, from which you will perceive that he claims to have been deputized by the Sheriff to make the arrest & that he acted under his authority.

You will oblige me by giving me your opinion on the subject at as early a day as convenient.

Very Respectfully,
D. Watkins Lyon

Grafton L. Delaney
Counsellor of the City of Baltimore

Baltimore May 5th 1855

Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 28th April post-dated 2^d May, & must beg you to attribute my neglect in not answering it sooner, to previous engagements which prevented me giving that consideration to the subject which could alone justify any expression of an opinion upon the point to which your inquiry had reference.

It appears that you predecessor in office offered a reward of three hundred dollars for the apprehension & conviction of the murderer of one Baltzell Grooming; that William Stanley, a police officer of the City of Baltimore fulfilled all the conditions which so far as he & the State were concerned would entitle him to the above reward.

But the question arises, whether being an officer of the Corporation he is not prohibited by the provisions of the Ordinance to which you refer, from holding for himself & enjoying the compensation due from the State. The words of the law require that "all moneys received by a police officer for serving warrants, writs & precepts and all donations for services rendered by him in his official capacity, shall be paid to the Register of the City for the use of the City." Such being the language of the Ordinance, it is apparent, that the answer to be made by me to your Excellency's inquiry, will depend entirely upon