

State of Maryland
Executive Department
Annapolis March 9th 1863

His Excellency John A. Andrew
Governor of Massachusetts

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th Inst. enclosing Reports of the distribution and payment of the fund of \$4000 provided by the Act of the last General Assembly of this State for the relief of the families of those of the Sixth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers who suffered by the Riots of 19th April 1861 in the City of Baltimore. — Our Legislature does not meet again until January 1864, when it does I shall communicate to that Body your letter and its accompanying Report.

I have the honor to be

With great Respect

Your obt. servt.

A. W. Bradford

St. Joseph's Church Phila.
Willings Alley March 6th 1863

His Excellency Gov. Bradford

Sir:

The undersigned, a resident Catholic Clergyman of this City, begs to call your Excellency's attention to a great evil which has been inflicted recently on his aged Father. Mr. John Witselberger, eighty years of age and for some years bed-ridden, dependent for his own support and the support of two infirm daughters on the receipts of the Washington Monument, of which he has had charge some twenty five or more years, is just ousted from his office. Well known as a native American, one of the old defenders of Baltimore, a loyal citizen, and faithful incumbent, it seems very hard that he should be, in his age and helplessness, causelessly deprived of the post which he occupied. Unable to attend for some time past to his duties, he employed as his assistant his son Mr. John Witselberger, who after serving for several years under the U.S. flag in defence of the frontier returned in broken health to gain a meagre support for himself and family in the division of the emoluments of the Monument. When he learned the design of persons to eject his Father he notified the undersigned who wrote to Mr. N. Williams, the sole surviving manager of the Monument. The following is an extract from his answer

"Your letter of the 3rd Inst. reached me yesterday afternoon — I called immediately on the Mayor and showed him your letter. He said that at the request of Gov. Bradford to appoint a keeper of the Washington Monument, he had nominated a Mr. Cole and the Council had confirmed the nomination. If I had known a change was contemplated I would have endeavoured to