

(See Exhibit No. 4003, Survey File and proceedings of June 20, July 1st., and 2nd., 1912.)

Mrs. Edith McClenahan.

In respect to the case of Mrs. Edith McClenahan, referred to in the proceedings of June 20, July 1st., and July 2nd., 1912, whose term of office as Matron, expired January 30, 1912, and who was reported by the Police Physicians as permanently incapacitated by reason of physical disability, a communication, as follows, was received:-

"Baltimore, Md., July 8, 1912.

Mr. Morris A. Soper, President,
Board of Police Commissioners.
Court House, City.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to call your attention, and through you, the attention of the Board of Police Commissioners to the case of Miss Edith McClenahan, Matron of the Northern District. I understand that you have considered her case, and have decided that it is impossible, under the law, to assist her. I trust, however, that this decision is not final. As her brother-in-law, I make the appeal to your Honorable Board to re-open and reconsider her case.

She has faithfully served in her position during the past 12 years, and has been a constant and regular contributor to the pension fund for that period of time. There is no doubt in the world that she has lost her health, and is now the wreck that she is, as a result of faithful performance of her duties as matron at that station house.

It is my judgment that the law does not contemplate to dismiss from the service a woman who has served in this capacity and lost her health through constant service, without some aid from your Honorable Board.

It certainly would appear to a layman that the law does not contemplate that she should be incapacitated through being assaulted, or knocked down, or something of that kind, like an officer. It would appear on the contrary that in the performance of her duties that she is thoroughly within the limit of the law when she does what is expected of a woman in her position.

In this connection, I beg to call the attention of your Honorable Board to the case of Miss Close, Matron of the Central Police District, who married Captain Baker. She is now drawing a pension, and did not serve 16 years in the department, and furthermore is a perfectly healthy woman.

I have seen Mr. Robt. Stanton, Counsel to the Board, and he has stated that he has furnished the Board with his opinion, but he also stated whilst he has construed the law in regard to the one year's salary, it would be with the Board to decide whether her case came under that portion of the law, relating to her being incapacitated for service in the department.

This is a most worthy case, and I trust that your Honorable Board will look at it from a christian and just standpoint, and, if possible, grant her the relief she has asked for.