

Baltimore Aug<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1814  
Edward Johnson Es Mayor  
of the  
City of Baltimore

Sir, we have been instructed by the  
first Baltimore hose company to inform you that  
we have agreeably to the consideration held on the other  
day in the Council Chamber taken the liberty to au<sup>th</sup>  
-rise our company to enroll thirty able bodied coloured  
people to aid us during the time of fire. In order that  
the quiet of the City be preserved and that the said coloured  
people take no undue liberties from this privilege, it  
has been recommended by our company, that each of  
them be presented with a badge of the said company, whi<sup>ch</sup>  
-ch shall protect them only during the time of fire,  
we however shall be solely governed by your judgment  
in this respect.

We are respectfully  
Yours &c.

Wm Davis Jun<sup>r</sup> F.B.H.C.  
George Williamson C. P. F. B. H. C.