

File No. 12286.

Baltimore, January 11, 1911.

Calvin W. Hendrick, Esq.,
Chief Engineer,
Sewerage Commission.

Dear Sir:

9859 I am writing you with further reference to the subject matter of my letter to the Sewerage Commission, under date of December 30th, 1910, about which Mr. Lauchheimer and I talked with you on January 9th, and more particularly with reference to the suggestion that in the future the Special Specifications for sewerage work be changed so as to indicate that the City is not the owner of streets in which the sewers are to be laid, - or, has not the necessary rights-of-way for laying the same.

In order to make the language perfectly clear, I think it well if the first paragraph of the Special Specifications be made to read as follows, - which, you will note, is a slight change in the language suggested in the letter of December 30th, above referred to:

"Sealed bids or proposals, addressed to the Board of Awards, for building sanitary trunk sewers, within the limits of Sewer District No. 48, in the City of Baltimore, as shown on plans on file in the office of the Chief Engineer of the Sewerage Commission, the said sewers to be built in streets, rights-of-way, secured or to be secured, or other locations, will be received at the office of the City Register, City Hall, Baltimore, Md., until . . . at which place and time they will be publicly opened by the Board of Awards and read".

It will, no doubt, be wise ordinarily to adopt the above language when it is necessary to acquire private rights-of-way for laying the sewers and when the same have not been acquired at the time of making up the Specifications and of advertising for Bids; but, in many cases - for instance - where the sewers are to be laid entirely in public streets, or in streets which are apparently public, it may be just as well, for considerations of expediency, to follow the old form. In such cases, I think the Sewerage Commission should decide which language it will insert in the Specifications,