

shall, on that day, at or near twelve o'clock M. of said day, not before, open such bids in the presence of such bidders and other persons who may choose to attend, and award the contract for such supplies to the lowest responsible bidder who shall have filed with his bid a bond satisfactory to said Board of Public Works; and said Board shall be the judge of the sufficiency of said bond, and no bid shall be considered by said Board unless accompanied by such bond.

Provided that whenever, in the judgment of the Board of Public Works, the amount to be expended for stationery, record and blank books, account books, and other materials of a like nature, as aforesaid, shall be less than the sum of five hundred dollars, then in such case the said Board shall not be required to advertise for bids, but is authorized to have the work done and to procure the said supplies by private contract. In such event the contract shall be based upon specifications prepared by the State Librarian, and its terms shall conform to the requirements of the succeeding Sections; and such contractor shall give bond to the State, with surety and penalty satisfactory to the Board of Public Works, for the due, prompt and faithful compliance with said contract.

An. Code, sec. 2. 1904, sec. 2. 1904, ch. 397, sec. 2.

2. It shall be the duty of the state librarian for and on behalf of the court of appeals, on behalf of the general assembly for the year in which the same may be in session, and on behalf of the state library and of the secretary of State for and on behalf of the executive department to furnish said board of public works, before the first day of June, in each year, specifications for the stationery, account books, record books and other materials of like character necessary to the work of the above mentioned departments in each and every year, and for the general assembly specifications shall be drawn by the state librarian for the bids for the year during which the general assembly shall hold its sessions.

An. Code, sec. 3. 1904, sec. 3. 1904, ch. 397, sec. 3.

3. Said board of public works shall immediately, upon determining the lowest responsible bidder, award said contract to said bidder, and notify him thereof; and it shall ten days thereafter enter into contract with said bidder for the supplies so enumerated; and if from any cause said bidder shall fail to enter into said contract, the said board of public works shall award the contract to the next lowest responsible bidder, who shall have filed his bond as directed in section 1.

An. Code, sec. 4. 1904, sec. 4. 1904, ch. 397, sec. 4.

4. If any person shall bid for said stationery, books and materials of a like character necessary for said departments, and fail to enter into contract with the said board of public works; it shall be the duty of the attorney-general of the State to enter suit in the name of the State of Maryland against the bond of said bidder for the amount of the difference between said bid and the next lowest responsible bidder, in the circuit court for the county, or in the superior court of Baltimore city, where