

if the highest price or prices shall in their judgment be insufficient they shall have power and it shall be their duty to reject said bid or bids.

1892, ch. 810. 1896, ch. 172.

215. The board of public works are hereby authorized and directed, whenever they shall determine it to be for the best interest of the State to sell the whole or any part of the following State stocks and securities, to wit: Fifty-five hundred shares of the capital stock of the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company; six hundred shares of the capital stock of the Annapolis Water Company; fifteen hundred and forty-nine shares of the capital stock of the Farmers' National Bank of Annapolis; mortgage of the Northern Central Railway Company to the State of Maryland, securing an annuity of ninety thousand dollars to the said State of Maryland, all now held and owned by the State of Maryland. And in making sale of such stock or securities the said board of public works are directed to proceed as directed in the preceding section. But the said board of public works may exchange any of the said State securities at their actual market value, for an equal amount of the outstanding bonds or certificates of indebtedness of the State of Maryland, and full authority is hereby given them to execute and deliver such transfers or assignments as may be necessary to effect such sale, exchange or transfer. And whenever there shall be any sale or transfer of such State securities by the board of public works, the proceeds thereof shall be applied to the payment and cancellation of a like amount of the outstanding bonds or certificates of debt of the State of Maryland. And whenever any of the outstanding bonds or certificates of debt of the State shall be paid, the same shall be cancelled and entered by designation and number by the treasurer, in the book in his office known as the "treasurer's record of bonds paid and cancelled." And the treasurer and comptroller are hereby directed, during the month of September, and prior to the close of the fiscal year next preceding the meeting of the General Assembly, to charge off on their books of account, all such State bonds and certificates of debt which have been paid or redeemed, so as to reduce the accounts of such bonds and certificates of debt to the amounts then actually outstanding and unpaid, so that the said books, at