or direct any board or commission, agents or agent, persons or person, to acquire for it by condemnation, for a school house, engine house, court house, market, bridge or approach to a bridge, or for the establishment or enlargement of a park, square, garden, or other public place, or for any other public or municipal purpose whatsoever, any land, or any right, title or interest in or to any property of whatsoever description, which may be acquired by the said Mayor and City Council of Baltimore by condemnation proceedings, and the manner of conducting such condemnation proceedings shall not be otherwise provided for, the said condemnation shall be conducted in the manner following, that is to say:

Manner of conducting condemnation.

A petition shall be filed in the Baltimore City Court in the name of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, setting forth a description of the property proposed to be acquired, together with a statement of the purpose for which the same is desired, and that the board, commission, agents, agent, persons or person, authorized to acquire the same are unable to agree with the owner or owners thereof, or that one or more of said owners are under age, *femme covert, non compos mentis,* the unknown heirs of some deceased person or persons, non-residents of the City of Baltimore, under some legal disability to contract, or are unknown, whichever may be the fact or facts that cause the condemnation proceedings, and said petition shall contain a prayer that the court will have the said property condemned; the court shall thereupon pass an order requiring a summons to issue for the

owner or owners, or supposed owner or owners of the property, and the husbands and wives respectively of those who may be named, to be served by the Sheriff and to be returned by some day to be named in said order, not less than ten nor more than twenty days from the day of the filing of said petition; and if the owner or owners, or any of them, be not summoned before the return day of the said summons, the same may be renewed from time to time as often as the court, in its discretion, may think proper; or, if the said owner or owners, or any of them, are non-residents of the City of Baltimore, or are unknown, or cannot be found upon reasonable inquiry, the court shall order the Sheriff to set up a copy of the summons upon the property, and shall order a notice to said non-resident or non-residents, or unknown owner or owners, or unknown heirs of such deceased person or persons, or the owner or owners who cannot be found and served with summons, to be published twice a week for four successive weeks in two daily newspapers published in the City of Baltimore, requiring them to appear in the said court and defend their interest on or before some day to be named in the order, which day shall be not less than six weeks nor more than eight weeks from the day of the signing of the said order. Upon the return of the said summons, or upon the expiration of the time prescribed in said order of publication, or upon the appearance of the owner or owners, or supposed owner or owners of said property, the court shall hear and determine any reasons that may be alleged why said property

Summons may be renewed.

Return of summons.