

vested in a *feme covert*, infant, idiot, lunatic, person *non compos mentis*, or absent from this state, that then it shall be lawful for the said mayor to apply to any one justice of the peace for the county in which such land shall lie, for his warrant to the sheriff of said county, thereby commanding the said sheriff to summon, or cause to be summoned, a jury of twelve honest and disinterested freeholders of his county, to meet on the land to be valued, on a certain day in the said warrant to be named, describing the land in his warrant; and the said justice is hereby empowered and required, on such application being made to him as aforesaid, to issue his warrant, under his hand and seal, directed to the sheriff of his county, requiring and commanding him to summon twelve honest and disinterested freeholders as aforesaid of his county, who shall stand indifferent between the parties, to meet on the land to be valued, on a certain day, of which the parties interested shall have due notice, and the said sheriff, upon the receiving said warrant, shall immediately comply therewith; and the jurors, when met together on the land, shall take the following oath, or affirmation, to be administered by the said sheriff to each of them separately, to wit: "You, A. B. do swear, or solemnly affirm, that you will make a just, true and honest valuation of this land, and of all damages that shall be sustained by the proprietor or proprietors of the land now to be valued and shewn to you, according to the best of your skill and judgment; so help you God;" and the said jury shall then proceed to inquire into and ascertain the value of the said land and damages as aforesaid, and the inquisition so made and taken shall be signed by the sheriff and the jury, and returned by the sheriff to the clerk of Baltimore county, which shall be by him filed and recorded among the land records of said county; and the valuation so made by the jurors shall be binding and conclusive on all parties, and shall be paid by the said mayor and city council to the owner or owners of the land, or his legal representatives, as a full recompence therefor; and the said mayor and city council, or their successors, on payment of the said money, shall have as good, sure and indefeasible title, in fee-simple, to said land, as if the same had been conveyed by the owner to the said mayor and city council, and their successors, by fine, feoffment, deed of bargain and sale, or any other mode of conveyance.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said mayor and city council, and their successors, on payment of the said money, shall hold the said land, and every part thereof, clear of all liens or incumbrances whatsoever.

On payment of money mayor and city council shall hold land.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the mayor and city council, or any of them, or any person or persons by them, or either of them, authorised, may enter upon and survey any lands, to determine, ascertain and lay out, the said ten acres of land, and the same when determined on, shall lay off and fix by certain boundaries.

May enter upon and survey lands.

5. AND BE IT ENACTED, That not more than ten acres of land in the whole shall be condemned for the purposes aforesaid.

Not more than ten acres to be condemned.