

ed for the construction and repair of the principal stem of the rail road before mentioned herein.

CHAP. 338.

SEC. 14. *And be it enacted*, That the president and directors of said company, or a majority of them, or any person by them authorised, may agree with the owner or owners of any land, earth, timber, gravel, stone or other materials which may be wanted for the construction or repair of any of said roads, or of any of their works, for the purchase or use of the same; and if they cannot agree, or if the owner or owners, or any of them, be a femme coverte, or minor, or non compos mentis, or out of the county in which the property wanted may be or lie, application may be made to any justice of the peace of such county, who shall thereupon issue his warrant, under hand and seal, directed to the sheriff of such county, requiring him to summon a jury of eighteen inhabitants of such county, not related to any of the parties, nor in any wise interested, to meet on or near the land or other property to be valued, on a day named in the warrant, not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the issuing of the warrant, as a jury of inquest of damages, and twelve or more of the persons so summoned and attending shall constitute such jury; and before they act as such, the sheriff shall administer to each of them, an oath, or affirmation, that he will justly and impartially value the land, or other property, required for the use of the Eastern Shore Rail Road company, and all damages the owner thereof will sustain by reason of the occupation of such property by the said company, that he will also justly and impartially estimate the benefit and advantage which will result to the owner of such property, from the construction of the Eastern Shore Rail Road and its works, and regulate his verdict of damages thereby and return a true inquisition, and the jury shall reduce their inquisition to writing, and shall sign and seal the same, and in it shall describe the property valued; and if land, by metes and bounds, and the time or term for which such property is required by the company, whether in perpetuity or for a limited time, and what time; and the sheriff shall

May bargain with persons

In case of disagreement, how to proceed

Jury of inquest

Oath

Return of inquisition