

Jury

may be made to any justice of the peace for Washington county, who shall thereupon issue his summons under his hand and seal, directed to the sheriff of said county, requiring him to summon a jury of twenty inhabitants of said county not interested in the property to be valued, to meet on the land or near the other property, to be valued on a day named in said summons, not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the issuing of the same, and if at the time named in said summons any of said jurors summoned do not attend, the sheriff shall immediately summon as many jurors as may be necessary, with the jurors in attendance, and from them each party or his agent, or if either be not present in person or by agent, the sheriff for him make strike off four jurors, and the remaining jurors shall act as the jury of inquest of damages, and the sheriff shall, before the said jury shall act, administer to each of them an oath that he will justly and impartially value the damages which the owner will sustain by the use or occupation of the property required by the said corporation. The jury shall summon such witnesses as the parties may require, and examine them on oath in relation to the value of the property to be condemned, and they shall reduce the testimony, if any is taken by them, to writing, and after the testimony is closed, and without any unnecessary delay, and before proceeding to the examination of any other claim, they shall ascertain and determine the compensation which ought to be made by the said corporation to the party owning or being interested in the property to be condemned.

Oath of jurors.

Ibid. s. 3.
Inquisition to
be returned to
circuit court.

343. The jury shall reduce their inquisition to writing and shall sign and seal the same, and it shall then be returned by the sheriff to the clerk of the circuit court for Washington county, and shall be filed by the said clerk in said court, and the said inquisition shall be confirmed by the said court if no sufficient cause to the contrary be shown, and when confirmed shall be recorded by said clerk at the expense of the corporation; and if the said inquisition be set aside, the said