

or occupation of the property required by the said corporation; and the said jury shall cause to be summoned such witnesses as the parties may require, and shall 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 in such case, 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 justly made by said corporation to the party or parties owning or interested in the property to be condemned and appraised by them, as aforesaid; and the said jury shall reduce their inquisition to writing, and shall sign and seal the same, and it shall then be returned by the said sheriff to the clerk of the circuit court for Frederick county, and by said clerk filed in his court; and 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 said corporation; but if set aside, the said court may direct another inquisition to be taken in the manner above prescribed, and such inquisition shall describe the property taken, the bounds of the land condemned, and the quantity or duration of interest in the same, condemned for the aforesaid corporation; and such valuation, when paid or tendered to the owner or owners of said property, his, her or their attorney, shall entitle said corporation to the estate and property, so as aforesaid valued, as fully as if the same had been conveyed by the owner or owners thereof.

Witnesses may be summoned.

Testimony to be reduced to writing.

Inquisition to be reduced to writing and be recorded by clerk of Circuit court.

If set aside, court may direct another inquisition.

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted,* That this act shall be in force from its passage.

CHAPTER 196.

AN ACT to incorporate the Metropolitan Rail Road Company. Passed May 5, 1853.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That John W. Maury, William W. Corcoran, William W. Seaton, David English, Francis Dodge, Ferdinand W. Risque, of the District of Columbia; Charles E. Trail, Jacob M. Kunkel, and Meredith Davis of Frederick county; Robert T. Dade, Wil-

Commissioners appointed.