

of the city of Baltimore when such lot, lots or square of ground may be wanted, application may be made to the judge of the criminal court of the city of Baltimore, who shall thereafter issue his warrant under his hand and the seal of the said court, directed to the sheriff of said city, directing him to summons a jury of twenty inhabitants of the city of Baltimore not related or in anywise interested to meet on the land to be valued on a day named in said warrant, not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the issuing of the same; and if at the said time and place any of said jurors do not attend, the said sheriff shall immediately summons as many jurors as may be necessary with the jurors in attendance, to furnish a panel of twenty jurors in attendance, and from them each party or its, his, her or their agent, if either be not present in person or by agent, the sheriff for him, her, it or them, may strike off four jurors, and the remaining twelve shall act as the jury of inquest of damages; and before they act as such, the said sheriff shall administer to each of them an oath or affirmation, as the case may be, that he will justly and impartially value the damages which the owners will sustain by the use or occupation of the same by the said mayor and city council; and the jury shall reduce their inquisition to writing, and they shall sign and seal the same, and it shall then be returned by said sheriff to the clerk of said court, and be by said clerk filed in his court, and shall be confirmed by said court at its next session if no sufficient cause to the contrary be shewn, and when confirmed shall be recorded by said clerk at the expense of the said mayor and city council, 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, or the bounds of the land condemned, and the quality or duration of the interest in the same valued for the corporation; and such valuation when paid or tendered to the owner or owners, of said property, or his, her or their legal representatives, shall entitle the said corporation to the estate, use and interest in the same thus valued, as fully as if it had been conveyed by the owner or owners of the same, and the valuation if not received when tendered, may at any time thereafter, be received from the aforesaid corporation without costs by their said owner or owners, his, her or their legal representatives.

Inquisition to be reduced to writing, and recorded.

Legal title.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall have In force. and take effect from and after its passage.