

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 owner or owners of said land, earth, gravel, stone or other materials will sustain by the use or occupation thereof by said company; and, if required by the parties whose lands are to be affected by their proceedings, the jury shall cause to be summoned such witnesses as the party 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 company to the party, or parties, owning or interested in the real estate or other property appraised by them and in determining the amount of such compensation, the jury shall not make an allowance or deduction on account of any real or supposed benefits which the parties may derive from the construction of said railroad or railroads; and the said company shall give notice to all persons whose interests are to be affected by the condemnation of any land, in writing, or by advertisement in a newspaper published in Cumberland, for at least three weeks successively, of the time and place of holding such inquisition; the said jury shall reduce the inquisition to writing; shall sign and seal the same; and it shall be returned by the said sheriff to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Allegany county, and by said clerk filed in his office; and shall be confirmed by the said Circuit Court at its next session if no sufficient cause to the contrary be shown; and when confirmed, shall be recorded by the said clerk at the expense of the said company; but if set aside, the said court may direct another inquisition to be taken, in the manner above described, and such inquisition shall describe the property taken, the bounds of the lands condemned, and the quantity or duration of interest in the same condemned for the company; and such valuation, when paid into court, or paid or tendered to the owner or owners of the said property, or to his, her, or their legal representatives, and not before, shall entitle the said company