

excepted from the appropriation, should not be patented without the further order of the legislature.

The 3d section of this act, in pursuance of the direction of the constitution, heretofore recited, ordains that "there shall be a land office held for the western shore at the city of Annapolis; and for the Eastern Shore, at the place appointed for holding the general court on that shore, under the direction and care of the registers of those offices for the time being: and" that "such registers shall have the possession and care of the extracts of the grants and certificates of the land on their respective shores, which shall hereafter be made agreeable to the directions in the form of government:" it then prescribes the general powers and duties of those officers, as well as of others connected with the establishment in the following words; "and such registers shall grant warrants for the resurveying, proclaiming, or escheating any land within any of the counties on their respective shores; and shall also on the order or titling of the treasurer of their shore, issue common or special warrants of vacant cultivation, for the surveying any vacant land, cultivated or uncultivated, in any of the counties of their respective shores; and such warrants shall be directed to, and executed by the surveyor of the county where the land to be surveyed or escheated shall lie, who shall return his certificate to the register of the land office for the Western Shore, to be delivered by him to the examiner general, who if the same shall be imperfect, shall return it to the said register, to be by him transmitted to the surveyor who made the same, for amendment; but, if the same shall pass examination, the examiner shall deliver it into the land office for the western shore, and the register thereof, after payment of the purchase or caution money (if any due) to the treasurer of the western shore, shall make out a grant, and present the same to the chancellor for his approbation, and being attested by him, and signed by the governor for the time being, the seal of the state shall be thereunto annexed." On this section which is given at large as containing a great part of the organization of the land office under the present government, it is necessary to remark that some of its provisions have been since changed or annulled; all certificates being by the act of 1795, ch. 88, made returnable in the first instance to the examiner, and certificates of land on the eastern shore being, in virtue of the act ch. 61, of the same session, returned to the land office of that shore, and there patented, under regulations which will be hereafter noticed.

The 4th section directs that the treasurers may grant orders or tidings to the registers of their respective shores, "for common warrants to take up vacant uncultivated land, or