

following years ; that, whereas there were settlers on other lots than those which had been disposed of, the (a) person so to be appointed should sell all such lots at not less than three shillings and nine pence per acre, giving a preference to the occupants, and taking bonds as aforesaid : he was further authorised to sell all the surplus lots theretofore appropriated, at not less than one shilling and eight pence per acre, payable as aforesaid. The register of the land office was directed to issue patents to any of the settlers before mentioned who should have complied with their contracts, including all such lots as were contiguous to each other in one patent : the bonds taken were to be a lien on the lands of the obligors from their dates, and it is by this act that vacant land in Allegany county was set at a lower price than in other parts of the state, it being directed by the 8th section "that all vacant lands in the said county may hereafter be taken up "by common or special warrant, or warrant of resurvey, in "the usual manner, at two shillings and six pence current "money per acre, one half to be paid at the time of obtaining "the warrant, and the other half on the return of the certificate ;"—composition under warrants already issued to be paid at the former rate.

By the act of 1793, three persons therein named were appointed commissioners, for the purpose of settling and adjusting the boundaries of the lots of the aforesaid settlers, as the means of preventing litigation among them.—Upon application to the said commissioners by any owner of such lots desirous to establish his boundaries, they were to appoint a time for that purpose, and to give, by advertisement affixed at the door of the court house, and other public places, a previous notice of thirty days, or, if any of the parties interested resided out of the county a notice of forty days, of the intended proceeding. They had power to summon witnesses, swear chain carriers, &c. and were authorised to mark and bound the lots according to their adjudication and adjustment of the original location thereof, of which they were to return certificates to the clerk of Allegany county to be recorded, and if no suit or action was brought within seven years after the recording such return, to call in question the adjudication of the commissioners, it should be taken as conclusive evidence of the original location, or, if the adjudication should be confirmed by verdict of a jury in any suit brought as aforesaid, it should be conclusive in the point confirmed by the jury, and between the same parties and those claiming under them, with a proviso that every infant, married woman, insane person, or person in prison or

(a) A commissioner was, in consequence appointed, of whose sales, &c. a return remains in the land office.