

al Warrants granted by the Proprietary himself in England, under such particular terms and conditions as he thought proper to impose. The claims, being thus admitted on record, stood as it were to the credit of the parties until they saw occasion to use or to assign them. When Warrant was obtained it barred provisionally such, or so many rights of the party as were necessary to cover it. The Warrants were signed by the Governor and directed to the Surveyor General, who, after their execution by himself or his deputies, returned Certificates of the surveys, under his signature, to the Secretary's office, but addressed, according to the style then in use, "to the *Lieutenant General*," after which, no objection, appearing, (c) *grants* or *patents* were issued conformably there-to under the great seal, signed by the Governor, and endorsed by the Secretary and Surveyor General agreeably to the instructions on that head which have already been inserted. The title was then complete and the rights on which it was founded were satisfied and cancelled. In order to shew more clearly the nature of those proceedings, which form the ground work of landed estates in Maryland, and of that system which is the professed subject of our enquiry, it is thought well to give in this place some extracts from the earliest land records, in which will be seen the original forms of Warrants, Certificates, and Patents, with their general properties and relation. It is not intended however, in this place, to go into a particular explanation of the nature and operation of those several instruments, for which reason the examples are not presented in any studied order, but, chiefly in the accidental succession in which they are found on record.

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(d) Came into the Province the 8th of August 1637, Mr. Thomas Copley and Mr. John Knolls who transported R H. L G, W K, &c.

Richard Garnett, senior, who transported his wife, Richard Garnett his son, ——— maid servant.

(c) These terms are used indifferently to express a donation or other free investiture of lands or tenements (not to mention offices, privileges &c.) made under the public seal of a Kingdom, State or other acknowledged power. The word *Grant* requires no explanation. The appellation of *Patent* is an abbreviation (using the adjective as a substantive) of *Letters Patent*, by which is meant a Writing open or public, as being attested by the public seal. The only difference between the two is that the term *Grant* is by custom often applied to the thing granted, while the name of a *Patent* is almost always used to express the Instrument or evidence of the Grant.

(d) There are some entries preceeding these, but by means of chasms they are rather unintelligible; these have been occasioned by damage sustained by the original records before they were transcribed into the book from which the entries are here taken.