

C H A P. LXXI. the person appointed assessor in each district, and shall, immediately after such choice, appoint a place and day, not exceeding ten days thereafter, (of which five days notice shall be given by some one of the commissioners to each assessor) for the said assessors to appear before them, and, at their appearance, the said commissioners shall openly read, or cause to be read, such parts of this act, and the act to ascertain the value of the land in the several counties of this state for the purpose of laying the public assessment, as relate to their duty, and shall advise them in what manner to make their assessment, and in what form to return their certificates thereof, and how to perform the several duties required of them by this and the before-mentioned act, according to the true meaning thereof; and the said commissioners shall also appoint a place and day, between the first and twentieth days of April next, for the said assessors to appear and bring in writing their several valuations of property in their respective districts in pursuance of this act.

An assessor to be appointed, &c. VIII. **And be it enacted,** That the commissioners of the tax for Baltimore county shall appoint an assessor or assessors to value all the property lying in the precincts of Baltimore-town, in the same manner, and by the same rules, as the property in said county, and the return or returns of such valuation shall be made to the commissioners aforesaid, and not to the commissioners of Baltimore-town, any thing in the aforesaid act to ascertain the value of the land in the several counties of this state for the purpose of laying the public assessment, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Commissioners to be governed by a former act, &c. IX. **And be it enacted,** That the said commissioners, in their direction to the assessors by them to be appointed in virtue of this act, shall be governed in all respects by the provisions and directions of the aforesaid act to ascertain the value of the land in the several counties of this state for the purpose of laying the public assessment, and of this act; and the said commissioners shall not be obliged to alter the price or value set on any lands in virtue of the aforesaid act averaging the value of lands, except on account of improvements erected thereon since the passage of the said act, and except also in cases where the value of the property has been diminished by fire or other unavoidable accident, and except also in cases where, on an appeal by the party interested, and on examination, they shall be of opinion the former valuation was erroneous and unjust; and the said commissioners are hereby authorized to call on the clerks of their counties, to deliver them a list of alienations from the first day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, to the first meeting of the said commissioners, and so from time to time as occasion may require; and also to call on the clerks of their counties for a list of all transfers of personal property which shall be recorded in their respective offices, and which shall take place after the assessment of property in virtue of this act, from time to time as occasions may require.

Register to make out an account of lands granted, &c. X. **And be it enacted,** That the register of the land-office of the western shore shall be and he is hereby directed, on the twentieth day of January next, to make out, at the expence of each respective county, an account of all lands granted therein between the first day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, and the said twentieth day of January next, and shall enclose and direct the same, under seal, to the commissioners of the tax in each county respectively, which letters he shall deliver to the sheriff of Anne-Arundel county, endorsed, "On public service," who shall forward the same as other public letters are by law directed to be forwarded, and under the like penalties; and the said register shall annually, between the first day of March and the first day of April, in like manner, make out and deliver accounts of all lands which shall, from time to time, be granted in this state, to be forwarded to the different commissioners of the tax in manner aforesaid.

XI. **And,** whereas sundry persons have obtained warrants to affect vacant and other lands, on which certificates have been returned, and the composition money thereon paid, and such persons, to evade the payment of any tax or charge on such lands, or for some other purpose, have neglected to take out patents there-
for,