

(Here the original patent is recited, from the record, at full.)

“ And we having seen the tenor of the said letters patent, have granted the same to be *exemplified*. In testimony whereof, we have caused the great seal of our said province of Maryland to be hereunto appended, the day of _____ in the year _____ &c.”

CHAPTER XIII.

PROCEEDINGS AND CUSTOMS DISUSED.

IN the course of the preceding examination we have had occasion to notice various matters which do not now enter into the practice of the land office, such as the surrendering or letting fall of warrants, certificates, and patents; the transferring patents by assignment endorsed thereon, the vacating of former grants upon resurveys, the recording of certificates before patent was issued; the exemplification of patents, &c. There are other usages which, as being rather insulated in their nature, we have hitherto passed by, and of which it is now proposed to take some brief notice—but first it is requisite to give a further account of some of those which have already been touched upon. Of these the most important is the assignment of patents, by which a complete title in lands was proposed to be conveyed from one person to another without a deed indented, or any of the ordinary formalities observed in such transactions.

The first instance on record of the transfer of a patent by endorsement thereon differs materially from the subsequent assignments, but may be deemed a step towards the more simple form which was afterwards observed in these transactions, the patent, in this case, which occurred as early as 1642, is surrendered back to the proprietary *for the use* of another person, which use and intention are supposed to be expressed by endorsement on the patent itself. The difference is that instead of the new acquirer's holding the land by the assigned patent, it is cancelled, and a new one granted. The following is the case here referred to.

“ 29th of November 1642.

“ Jane Cockshott, widow, prayeth to have a patent in the name of the freehold lately granted by patent to Randall Revel, and by him surrendered into his lordship's hands for the use of the said Jane