

the Eastern Shore, "who shall examine, and either pass or reject any certificate delivered to him, agreeably to the present or future rules and directions established or to be established for the government of the land office of each respective shore." It authorises them, in case of a vacancy, by refusal, death, &c. to make a new appointment, and directs that the said examiner shall take the oath of fidelity to the government and an oath (or affirmation,) to execute his office diligently and faithfully, without favour, affection, partiality, or prejudice.

In respect to the treasurer of the eastern shore the new system established by this act required no regulation but what regarded the valuation of escheats; and of improvements on cultivated land, the provision made by the act on this subject is a repetition of the former general one, the power of finally ascertaining the value of escheat land and of improvements, by either confirming or over ruling the valuation of the surveyor, being given, in respect to eastern shore certificates, to the treasurer of that shore. His receipt of caution or purchase money due on certificates, prior to their being patented, is mentioned in the act as a thing in course.

The 5th section of this act provided for the appointment of a judge of the land office on the eastern shore with powers similar to those vested in the chancellor in reference to the western shore land office; being, generally, to hear and determine disputes concerning the validity of surveys, and the grants of land, according to such rules and orders as were or might be established for the government and direction of the chancellor in the determination of like cases, and with all the authorities in respect to land affairs that were then vested in the chancellor of the state as judge of the land office thereof. But the next section gave for an appeal from the decisions of the said judge in the following words, viz.

"That if any party or parties aggrieved by any judgment or determination of the said judge of the land office for the eastern shore, shall have full power and right to appeal from any such judgment or determination to the chancellor of the state as judge of the land office: and in all cases of such appeals, where the judgment or determination shall be reversed, the chancellor shall direct the register of the land office of the western shore to return the transcript of the record to the register of the said land office of the eastern shore, with an order, in the nature of a writ of *procedendo*, to the said judge, directing him to proceed in such case, and, as the case may be, to a new trial thereof, in the same manner as if no trial had taken place; and the opinion of the chancellor in the premises, shall be conclusive as to