

proprietary to Philemon Lloyd, judge of the land office, dated at London the 19th of September in the preceding year, in which was contained a direction, "that no special warrants should be thereafter granted except with the condition that the parties should take out their patents within two years from the date thereof," which condition was accordingly always after inserted, at least, in all warrants of escheat and resurvey. Although therefore the proclamation spoke only of warrants already taken, the condition inserted as aforesaid in latter warrants subjected them to forfeiture on non-compliance, and the proclamations having explained more at large the consequences of omitting to compound, and to sue out grants; and that of 1733 having taken in the case of common warrants, all subsequent failures or omissions fell under them either distinctly or in the aggregate, and they were accordingly referred to as the ground of every application for warrant to affect lands surveyed but not compounded on &c. by the description of "*sundry proclamations.*" I have been thus particular in deriving the origin and explaining the nature of the proclamation warrant not only to settle a question of considerable curiosity, but also because the singular name, given, in all probability, by mere chance, to this species of warrant, has since the revolution been introduced into the laws of the State, and recognised as the descriptive appellation of a warrant containing the general principle of the former one, though necessarily differing in the extent of its objects and operation; but although the present warrant does differ from the other in several important particulars, it is not a warrant of original ordination, but is, in fact, the proclamation warrant of the former government, adopted by the state, and as such continues subject to the rules, usages, and interpretations which prevailed under that government, so far as they are applicable to the present objects of the warrant, and are not superseded by positive rules since prescribed. I shall now insert the documents referred to, together with a proclamation of the 7th of February, 1744, which being a repetition, almost verbatim, of that of 1732, and being too late to have had a share in originating those warrants, although it served probably, in its turn, to keep them up, has not appeared to require notice in the preceding recital.

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In the right hon'ble the lord Proprietary's additional instructions to Philemon Lloyd. Esq. his chief judge in land affairs, bearing date at London the 19th day of September, 1724, the eighth paragraph is as followeth:

"8. Whereas, I am fully convinced how reasonable it is that any person pretending right unto lands within my pro-