

have some resemblance to those of the former *land council*; but their authorities took a much greater range: the renewal of leases within the proprietary's manors and reserves, and the inspection of the conduct of the stewards of those manors, &c. and that of the rent roll keepers and farmers of the revenue, formed the principal part of their current occupations; but, the extensive idea which this board had of its power in reference to land affairs was shewn in a particular business which for its importance in every view requires to be noticed.

The proceeding and the contest of which I am about to give a succinct account related in their original cause to what concerned the territorial extent of lord Baltimore's grant, respecting which as much has been already said as the small space that could be allotted to that subject would allow.

On the 16th day of April, 1764, governor Sharpe issued the following instruction to the judges of the land office, viz.

"GENTLEMEN,

"The lord proprietary being desirous to have 10,000 acres of land reserved in the western part of Frederick county for a manor, I have given the surveyor of that county instructions to execute no warrants whatever on the lands lying beyond Fort Cumberland till the above quantity is surveyed and laid out for his lordship; of which you will be pleased to take notice and cause the same to be communicated to any person that may apply for warrants that may affect land in that part of the province.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your h'ble servant,
HORO. SHARPE."

On the second of January, 1769, the same governor as presiding member of the board of revenue, laid before that board plats and certificates of lands reserved for his lordship's use in the western frontier of the province, and with their concurrence issued and published, in the English and German languages, the following notice.

"Annapolis, January 2d, 1769.

"Whereas sundry persons have heretofore purchased warrants and made surveys with a view of securing land in the western part of the province beyond Fort Cumberland, but have been restrained from obtaining patents on the same by reason of a prohibitory order signified to the judges of the land office, and as the reasons for continuing such prohibitory order no longer subsist; it is hereby notified to all persons who have purchased warrants or made surveys for the purpose abovementioned, that they lay before his lordship's