

the provincial government, not expressly by any law, passed since the revolution, for that of 1781, gives to the registers the charge only of the short extracts of certificates and grants therein mentioned ; but, because the records at large, which have been claimed and kept by the state, naturally fell into the hands of that officer, and were indeed, placed in his charge by the governor and council when they were surrendered by the proprietary's officers. The nature of his charge and trust, in respect to those records, and that of both registers in regard to records and papers taking their rise since the revolution, are in some measure regulated by an act of Assembly of 1742, ch. 10, which required the register of the land office among other officers to give bond for providing at his own expence, and keeping in due order and repair, good and sufficient books for entering and recording all matters required to be recorded, &c. The register of either shore takes, besides the oath already mentioned to have been prescribed by the constitution, an oath directed by the act of 1779, ch. 25, sect. 8, to wit, that he will faithfully and impartially, to the best of his skill and knowledge execute his office, and that he will not willingly or wittingly charge, ask, take, exact, demand, or receive, any other or larger fees for doing his duty than are mentioned, rated, regulated, and established by the act entitled "an act for the regulation of "officers' fees." He has charge of the seal of office, with which he attests all warrants issuing therefrom, and all copies of records and office papers to which his attestation is desired. He issues warrants of resurvey and of escheat to the parties requiring them, without particular direction, and common or special warrants, and warrants on the proclamation, on the orders or titlings of the treasurer. He also issues, ex officio, warrants, common or special, for vacant land, in lieu of warrant remaining unexecuted in the whole or in part, likewise for or in lieu of deficiency found, on resurvey, in original tracts and, for composition paid in cases in which the certificate or grant shall afterwards have been vacated, or where certificates ordered for correction become void by not being afterwards returned within the time prescribed by law ; and he applies unexecuted warrant towards the composition due on certificates for vacant land either taken up under original warrants or included in resurveys, certifying such application, where it does not make a full settlement, to the treasurer, who thereupon admits it towards payment of the composition due as aforesaid. When certificates are returned to the office examined and passed, he receives them, whether compounded on or not, provided that they are offered within eighteen months from the date of the warrants on which they purport to be founded, and endorses on them the time of return, which is also