

a convention until the nomination for State Treasurer. He is on the board of the State Insane Asylum, vice-president of the House of Correction, and is connected with the Maryland Agricultural College.

WILLIAM O. MITCHELL, *Commissioner of the Land Office* :

William O. Mitchell, the present Land Commissioner for Maryland, was born near Cornersville, Dorchester county, Maryland, December 21st, 1847. He is the son of John and Margaret C. Mitchell. His mother was Miss White, daughter of Hannah and John White, of Port Deposit, Cecil county, Md., and was married to John Mitchell in 1843. John Mitchell, his father, was the only son of Michael and Kittie Mitchell, *nee* Phillips. The Mitchell family is one of the oldest in the State, having lived for more than two hundred years in Dorchester county. William O. Mitchell lived and worked on a farm until he was fourteen years old, when he was sent to Washington College. After being there three years he left and entered the Quartermaster's Department on South Gay street, under Captain R. M. Newport. After three months service there he entered the Provost Marshall's office in Wilmington, Del., under the late Col. Edwin Wilmer, and served until the war ended, when he engaged in the dry goods business and other pursuits in Baltimore city until 1875, when he removed to Cambridge and read law under the present Judge Lloyd of the First Judicial District, and was admitted to the bar in 1880, since which time he has been a member of the Cambridge bar in full practice. When Judge Lloyd became Governor, succeeding McLane, he appointed Mitchell as Colonel and *aide-de-camp* on his staff, a most fitting tribute to a friend, as Col. Mitchell was the first Republican appointed to a similar position since the adoption of the present Constitution. Colonel Mitchell was appointed Land Commissioner by Governor Lowndes on the last night of the session of the Legislature of 1896, and was at once confirmed, the name of Hon. Philip D. Laird having been previously sent in and failed of confirmation. Col. Mitchell is not a member of any church, but thinks more of his mother's religion than any other, she being a Friend. In politics Col. Mitchell is a Republican of the strictest faith, and has been one all his life, and has done an immense amount of campaign work for his party.