

XV. This act to commence on the first Monday of February next, and to continue and remain in force for the term of nine years, and until the end of the next session of assembly which shall happen thereafter.

C H A P.
LX.
Commence-
ment, &c.

C H A P. LXI.

An ACT respecting certificates of surveys made on the eastern shore.

Passed De-
cember 24.

WHEREAS it is manifestly intended by the constitution of this state, that the land-office to be opened on the eastern shore should answer all the purposes of convenience to the said shore of which it is capable: And whereas, agreeably to the acts of assembly now in force, that intention is by no means effectuated, but on the contrary great inconvenience and injury frequently arise to the said inhabitants of the eastern shore; wherefore,

Preamble.

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That all certificates of surveys made on the eastern shore of this state, by virtue of warrants of whatsoever kind which may be issued out of the land-office of the said shore after the first day of March next, shall be returned, by the respective surveyors making the same, to the register of the land-office for the said shore, to be by him delivered to an examiner, to be appointed as herein after mentioned, for the said shore; and if any certificate shall be found defective or imperfect, the said examiner shall forthwith return the same to the said register, to be by him transmitted to the surveyor who made the same, for correction, but if the same shall pass the examination of the said examiner, the said examiner shall deliver it to the register of the land-office for the said eastern shore, to be by him recorded in a proper and sufficient book, to be kept by him for the purpose of recording all such certificates, which it shall be his duty to do immediately after patent shall issue thereon, and not before; and the register of the said land-office, (after the payment of the purchase or caution money which may be due upon any certificate to the treasurer of the said shore,) shall make out a grant or patent, and shall present the same to the judge of the land-office for the eastern shore, to be appointed as herein after directed, for his approbation, and the same being approved by him, and so certified, shall be transmitted by the said register, at his own proper expence, to the chancellor for his attestation, and being attested by him, and signed by the governor for the time being, the seal of the state shall be thereupon annexed, the cost and expence of which seal shall be paid by the register of the land-office on the eastern shore, in the same manner as is now or may hereafter be directed by law, which sum, so paid by the said register, together with the sheriff's commission for collection, may be collected from the owner of the patent by the said register, in the same manner as officers fees are by law directed to be collected; and every grant or patent so obtained shall, immediately thereafter, be recorded in the land-office for the eastern shore, in a proper and sufficient book, to be kept for the purpose of recording all such grants or patents.

Certificates to
be returned,
&c.

III. And be it enacted, That on or before the said first day of March next, the governor, with the advice of the council, shall be authorized to appoint and commission one fit and proper person, who shall reside at Easton, in Talbot county, to be the examiner for 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, and according to such of them as the case may require, and in case of refusal, death, disqualification or resignation, of any person so appointed as aforesaid examiner of the eastern shore, the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for the time being, shall appoint and commission one fit and proper person to supply his place; and every person appointed shall, before he acts in his office, take the oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, to the government, and an oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, to execute his office diligently and faithfully, without favour, affection, partiality or prejudice.

Governor to
appoint an
examiner,
&c.