

C H A P.

LXI.

Value of es-  
cheat lands,  
&c. to be re-  
turned, &c.

IV. **And be it enacted,** That the value in current money of all escheat lands, and improvements thereon, and the real value in current money of all improvements on cultivated lands, on the eastern shore, shall be returned and certified by the surveyor, upon oath, or affirmation, as the case may be, at the time of returning his certificate of survey, and the treasurer of the eastern shore shall, in all such cases, finally ascertain the value of such lands and improvements, and shall receive the money therefor from the party.

Judge to be  
appointed,  
&c.

V. **And be it enacted,** That the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, be hereby authorized to appoint and commission, on or before the first day of March next, a person of integrity and knowledge in the law, to be judge of the land-office for the eastern shore, who shall reside at Easton on the said shore, and whose duty it shall be to hear and determine all disputes that shall happen or arise concerning the grant of lands, or the validity of surveys made and executed under warrants that shall be issued out of the said office after the said first day of March next, in like manner, and according to such rules or orders, as are or shall be established for the government and direction of the chancellor in the determination of like cases, and who shall thereafter have all the powers and authorities, with respect to land affairs on the eastern shore, that are now vested in the chancellor of this state as judge of the land-office thereof; and in case of death, refusal, resignation or disqualification, of any person appointed judge as aforesaid, the governor and council may appoint another in his place; and any 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.

Party ag-  
grieved may  
appeal, &c.

VI. **And be it enacted,** That any party or parties aggrieved by any judgment or determination of the said judge of the said land-office for the eastern shore, shall have full power and right to appeal from any such judgment or determination to the chancellor of the state, as judge of the land-office; and in all cases of such appeals, where the judgment or determination shall be reversed, the chancellor shall direct the register of the land-office of the western shore to return the transcript of the record to the register of the said land-office of the eastern shore, with an order, in the nature of a writ of *procedendo*, to the said judge, directing him to proceed in such case, and, as the case may be, to a new trial thereof, in the same manner as if no trial had taken place, and the opinion of the chancellor in the premises shall be conclusive as to the question by him decided; and the said judge shall thereupon proceed in such case to a new trial thereof, and shall, in his discretion, award costs, incurred as well on the appeal aforesaid as in the said land-office.

Register to  
make out a  
list, &c.

VII. **And be it enacted,** That the register of the land-office for the eastern shore shall annually, on or before the first day of October, make out and transmit to the commissioners of the tax of the several counties of the said shore, a list of all grants or patents issued out of his office, together with the names of the grantees, and of the lands, and the quantity of acres contained in each grant, and the dates of the respective certificates and patents, and, in cases of resurveys, shall also enumerate the several tracts or parcels of land on which such resurvey is made, and the quantity of acres in each original tract or parcel, as far as the same can be ascertained from such certificate of resurvey.

Rules, &c. to  
be transmit-  
ed, &c.

VIII. **And be it enacted,** That in order to preserve an uniformity of practice in the affairs of the land-offices of the western and eastern shores, the governor and the council shall cause to be transmitted to the register of the land-office, and to the examiner, for the eastern shore, certified copies of such rules and orders as are now, and which may be hereafter, made and established for the direction and government of land-offices, and for the conduct of the treasurer in issuing titles or orders for warrants, and for the observance of the said examiner and register in their respective offices, and for the behaviour of surveyors; which said rules and orders shall be recorded by the said respective officers,