

In Council February 1. 1796

Sir.

The act of assembly entitled "an act respecting certificates of surveys made on the Eastern Shore" in order to accomplish an Uniformity of Practice in the Land offices of the Western and Eastern Shore that the Governor and Council transmit to the Register of the Land office and to the Examiner of 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 Tittlings or orders for Warrants and for the observance of the said Examiner and Register in their respective offices and for the behaviour of Surveyors and of other, as particularly prescribed by the eighth section of the above Law. This Law appears to have originated from an Idea of the general assembly that the Executive had heretofore made a Code of Rules and orders for the Government of the Land offices under the Powers vested in them by the act of 1781. but we can find nothing done by the Executive heretofore under that Law, except the Instructions to Surveyors. We therefore feel ourselves in some degree at a loss to make out the compilation required by the act, as it would be necessary to have a more full acquaintance with the subject than we are in possession of, to do entire justice to it.

We expect that much useful information may be acquired by reference to the Register of the Land office, and it would enable us to go thro' the business with more satisfaction to ourselves and with greater advantage to the State if we could be favoured with your sentiments as to the present situation of the offices and the Regulations which your experience may have suggested to you to be necessary.

The Honble

Alexander Contee Hanson
Chancellor of Maryland

We have the Honor to be

Henry Ridgely
Pres^o pro Tem