

In Council Annapolis November 24/1796
gentlemen

It was the intention of the Council for the last year to make an early communication to the Legislature of such a part of their Proceedings as it might be material for them to be informed of but they were prevented by the circumstance of their time of service expiring on the second day of the session owing to the month's coming in on a Tuesday.

As the present Council is in a great measure composed of the same members, we have now the honour of laying before the General Assembly an account of our proceedings during the last year in regard to the various duties which devolved on us by particular laws and Resolutions.

Agreeably to the directions of the act respecting Certificates of Surveys made on the Eastern Shore, we proceeded to the choice of an Examiner and a Judge of the Land Office for the Eastern Shore, and appointed Charles Emory Esquire to the former office and Thomas Bullet Esquire to the latter. - On considering the eighth Clause of the act which speaks of the Rules and Instructions to be transmitted for the purpose of procuring an uniformity of practice on both shores, we found it impossible to comply with the intentions of the Legislature any further than by forwarding the Rules and directions which had been heretofore laid down for the government of Surveyors in their office. - The powers referred to by the Clause in question was given to the Executive by an act passed in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one, since which