

135

shipping the sum received by him and the number of acres the party is to have surveyed. Upon this order the warrant for making the Survey issues from the Land office, directed to the Surveyor of the County where the lands are, & these orders being pursued in the Land office, are a check on the Agent in settling his accounts of the Auction Money received. When the Surveyor returns his Certificate to the Land office, it remains there for three months before Patents issue, after which the party is entitled to a Grant by the established Rules of the Office; when however apprehend, that this Rule, after the Auction Money is paid, constitutes the Contract to be performed with the Party, and consequently that the Faith of Government is engaged that it shall be in this manner complied with, but if this Rule be altered (which the Agent in his Letter seems to consider as an unalterable Rule of Right) and the Alteration is to be made with a view of obtaining an Order to prevent the issuing of Grants, and if the attempt to induce such an Order should be successful, the Parties will have reason to be alarmed, to complain of a breach of Contract & of the precarious dependance on Acts of Government. If there be no intention to obtain an Order to prevent the issuing of Grants, we shall not undertake to conjecture, why the Agent thought it expedient to express his Deal on this Occasion for the Interests of the Proprietor, and to insist on his behalf, that there should be a new retrospective Regulation of the Land office; Should there be in consequence of his unexpected Regulation a Representation an Order not to issue Patents to those who have paid the Auction Money executed their Warrants in pursuance of his Orders, & who