

An. Code, sec. 11. 1904, sec. 11. 1888, sec. 9. 1854, ch. 149, sec. 3.

11. He may certify copies and proceedings of the court of chancery in his possession and where such certificates are required to be under seal, he shall affix his seal of office; and he shall be entitled to the same fees and compensation for such services as the clerks of the circuit courts are entitled to for similar services.

This section referred to in passing upon the validity of sec. 13 (An. Code, 1912)—see footnotes to sec. 12. *McMullen v. Shepherd*, 133 Md. 162.

An. Code, sec. 12. 1904, sec. 12. 1888, sec. 10. 1853, ch. 415, sec. 5.

12. He shall give bond to the State with security to be approved by the governor and kept in the State department in the penalty of two thousand dollars for the faithful performance of the duties of his office.¹

An. Code, sec. 14. 1904, sec. 14. 1888, sec. 12. 1853, ch. 415, sec. 7.

13. He shall record all certificates that may be returned to the land office and issue patents thereon so soon as they are ready for patents.

An. Code, sec. 15. 1904, sec. 15. 1888, sec. 13. 1874, ch. 66.

14. He shall have custody of all books containing deeds and transfers of soldiers' lots and all other land record books and papers, including extracts of deeds transferred to him by the clerk of the court of appeals under the act of 1874, chapter 66, and of all the other extracts of deeds which shall be hereafter received by him, and shall give certified copies of such deeds and extracts and make searches for the same when so required, and shall receive and retain therefor fees at the same rate now charged for copies of and searches for other papers in his office.²

The legislature cannot take away from the commissioner fees belonging to him after they have been earned. *Scharf v. Tasker*, 73 Md. 385.

An. Code, sec. 16. 1906, ch. 412.

15. He shall have custody of all maps, books, records and papers connected with the office of the board of shell fish commissioners³ of the State of Maryland, which may be committed to his care and custody by the said board of shell fish commissioners, and shall safely keep them in some place reasonably free from accident by fire, and shall, whenever required to do so, cause copies thereof to be made under the seal of his said office, and shall receive and retain therefor fees at the same rate now charged for copies and searches for other papers in his office, and shall receive as compensation for his services and responsibility the sum of fifty dollars per month, which shall be in addition to the salary now allowed him by law as the commissioner of the land office; provided however, that the fees received by him for copies of papers, etc., shall, after paying the actual expense of the same, be turned over to the board of shell fish commissioners.

¹ Sec. 13 of art. 54, An. Code (1912)—act, 1900, ch. 318—was held unconstitutional and void in *McMullen v. Shepherd*, 133 Md. 158.

² By act, 1908, ch. 606, the commissioner of land office is directed to have transcribed or rebound such records in his custody as may require same, and an appropriation is made therefor.

³ Now conservation commissioner.