

154. The commissioner herein appointed shall have access to all the books and papers which have been deposited or filed in the office of the clerk of the court of appeals of this state and which contain extracts from any deed, mortgage or instrument of writing which has been recorded in any of the land or mortgage records of Baltimore county, and the said commissioner shall copy or cause to be copied such extracts as in his opinion will be required to restore and re-establish such of the indexes, land and mortgage records or papers or instruments of writing which may have been recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for said county as have been either wholly or partially destroyed by fire, and if it should be deemed advantageous and proper by the said commissioner, he shall be permitted by receipting for the same, to withdraw any book or paper containing extracts as aforesaid from the office of the said clerk of the court of appeals, and to retain said book or paper for such reasonable length of time as will enable the said commissioner to get such copies as he may require, and it shall be the duty of the said commissioner to certify under his hand and seal each and every copy made of or taken from the extract of any deed, mortgage or instrument of writing as aforesaid, and when any record or instrument of writing cannot, in the judgment of the said commissioner be fully restored or re-established without the aid of such extract or extracts, then the filing of such certified extract or extracts as the said commissioner may order and direct among the land and mortgage records in the office of the said clerk of the circuit court shall have the same effect in law, and shall secure to the party or parties interested, the same rights, title and interest which was designed and intended to be vested by the original instrument of writing and record thereof as fully and effectually as if the record thereof had not been destroyed or injured by fire.

Ibid s 13
Commissioner
to have access
to records in
clerk's office of
court of ap-
peals, &c.