

of the act of eighteen hundred and eighty-four, relating to the public records of Calvert county, be and the same are hereby repealed and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

Repealed and re-enacted.

SECTION 1. *And be it enacted*, That all deeds, wills, mortgages, papers or other instruments of writing which have been re-recorded, whether from the original or certified copies thereof, either in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert county, or in the office of Register of Wills of said county, since the third day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, or which may hereafter be re-recorded in said offices, the original records of which were destroyed by fire, shall have the same force and effect in law and equity that the original had; provided, that all such deeds, mortgages, wills, papers and other instruments of writing which may be re-recorded after six months from the passage of this act, recording whereof was made necessary by law, shall be re-recorded in conformity and compliance with the laws of this State relating to conveyancing and recording, and shall be subject to the conditions and regulations thereof, the same as now, deeds, mortgages, wills and other instruments of writing; provided, that the existence and recording of any deed, mortgage, will or other instrument of writing destroyed by said fire or lost, may be proven by parol or otherwise, in accordance with the rules of evidence, and when so proven shall have the same force and effect as the original would have had.

To make valid records.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the Judges of the Circuit Court for Calvert county, or a majority of said Judges, upon petition or otherwise, are hereby authorized and empowered to hear and determine all matters relating to or concerning the contents of the lost records and dockets of said county, and to order the restoration and reinstatement of any and all judgments, decrees and other matters at law