

and preserved as all other records in his office, and the said clerk, hereby authorized to be appointed, shall perform generally such other duties connected with the business of said commission as the said commissioner may from time to time prescribe, and before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take and prescribe an oath or affirmation well and truly to perform the duties of his office, which oath or affirmation may be administered by the [the] said commissioner and certified by him, and recorded in the proceedings of the said commissioner.

16. Said commissioner shall have and exercise all the powers which are now possessed by the Judges of the Circuit Courts of the several counties of the State, to issue and compel process for the attendance of witnesses, and it shall be the duty of the sheriff of said county to serve such process, for which service he shall be entitled to receive the same fees as are now allowed by law for like services, to be paid either by the parties interested or by the county, as the said commissioner may prescribe.

17. The said commissioner shall notify, by circular or otherwise, all persons having original deeds or other instruments of writing or papers which have been recorded in the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court of said county, the record of which has been wholly or partially destroyed by fire, to file said originals with the clerk of the said Circuit Court, and shall also prescribe the time and place of sitting of the said commissioner, which shall be at the court house in said county.

18. In all cases where, in the judgment of the commissioner appointed by this act, any record in the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court for said county, shall have been so burnt or defaced as to be wholly destroyed by fire, and the index to such record, or the general index, may supply the titling to such records, he shall take and accept said index as auxiliary evidence, and shall, if the original papers are a certified copy thereof, properly evidenced, as of record, be produced, order and direct such original paper or copy, as the case may be, to be recorded anew by the clerk of the Circuit Court for said county,