

THIRD EDITION

OF THE

CODE OF VIRGINIA:

INCLUDING

LEGISLATION TO JANUARY 1, 1874.

PREPARED BY

GEORGE W. MUNFORD.

PUBLISHED FOR THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO LAW, UNDER THE DIRECTION
OF R. F. WALKER, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC PRINTING.



RICHMOND:
PRINTED BY JAMES E. GOODE.
1873.

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laws so chaotic and conflicting in many instances, and produced such radical changes by amendments and repeal, that the citizens of the state find it impossible to know what the laws are under which they live; and it requires the deepest research and investigation of the bar and the judiciary to ascertain the law as it is, and then to construe it correctly and satisfactorily.

"Under these circumstances I have prepared another edition of the Code, and I offer it to the general assembly for publication and distribution to the officers of government for such remuneration as it may deem just. I have encountered great difficulty in its preparation, and have spared neither time nor care in the work, my undivided aim having been to make it as correct as the materials at my disposal would justify.

"I have prefaced the constitution as it now exists with an epitomized historical account of the revolution through which the state has passed, (which I believe will be of great use in future,) and have made many notes to other chapters, showing the changes made in the polity and government of the commonwealth. I have endeavored to do this without bias or prejudice. I propose, if the general assembly shall deem the work worthy of publication, to insert in their proper places such amendments to the laws as may be adopted at the present session."

The entire subject was referred, in both branches of the general assembly, to the judiciary committee, and the following act was passed unanimously in each house:

An Act to provide for the Publication of the New Edition of the Code of Virginia.

In force March 25, 1873.

Whereas, under the provisions of an act passed on the nineteenth of March, eighteen hundred and sixty, George W. Munford, the then secretary of the commonwealth, was authorized and empowered to prepare a Second Edition of the Code of Virginia, which was published at the expense of the commonwealth; and whereas, since that time many important changes have been made in our state and county governments by the new constitution, and the subsequent alterations and amendments to the laws require consequential changes in the Code; and the said George W. Munford having prepared another edition of the said Code, embodying the said amendments, with notes explanatory thereof, and tendered it to the state for publication: Therefore,

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of Virginia, That the superintendent of public printing is hereby authorized and empowered to receive from said George W. Munford the said edition of the Code so prepared by him, and shall advertise in such of the papers of the state, as he may deem expedient, for the publication of six thousand copies thereof, to be in all respects equal in paper and printing to the edition of eighteen hundred and sixty, and to be well bound in brown calf; and shall contract for the printing of the same upon the best terms to be had, requiring bond and security for the faithful execution of the work, and providing in such contract that the copyright of said edition shall be reserved to the commonwealth. And it is hereby provided, that the amendments to the said Code, which may be made during the present session of the general assembly, shall be inserted in their proper places in the new edition.

2. For the preparation of said edition, the examination of the proof-sheets, and for the preparation of a full and complete index, the said George W. Munford shall receive the sum of five thousand dollars, one-half thereof to be paid, by warrant of the auditor of public accounts, out of any money in the public treasury not otherwise appropriated, when the superintendent of public printing shall certify that said work has been tendered to him for publication; and the other half shall be paid, in like manner, when the said work shall have been completed.

3. This act shall be in force from its passage.

In compliance with this law, the present edition has been prepared by me, and the amendments made during the last session of the general assembly, have been carefully inserted.