

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FOURTH REVISION.

THE  
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED AUGUST 29, 1883, AND TAKING EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1884.

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BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.



PORTLAND:  
PUBLISHED BY LORING, SHORT & HARMON  
AND  
WILLIAM M. MARKS, PRINTER.  
1884.

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## PREFACE.

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This revision was initiated by a resolve approved by Governor Plaisted, March 8, 1881, by which the undersigned was appointed Commissioner and directed to report at the next session.

His report, made accordingly January 3, 1883, was accepted, but by a resolve approved by Governor Robie, March 15, 1883, he was further directed to incorporate the legislation of that year into the new code, under the supervision of a legislative commission consisting of the following gentlemen:—the Honorable T. H. Wentworth and the Honorable William M. Rust, of the Senate, and Weston Thompson, A. M. Spear, J. E. Moore, H. M. Bearce, G. A. Emery, John B. Donovan, O. G. Hall and H. M. Heath, Esquires, of the House, and to report finally at an adjourned session to be held August 29, 1883. That duty having been performed, the Fourth Revision of the General and Public Laws of the State of Maine was enacted on that day, to take effect January 1, 1884. The public laws of twelve legislatures, consisting of one thousand and thirty-nine public acts, have been incorporated into the text of the Revised Statutes of 1871, the whole of which has been substantially re-written in a style designed to be more uniform, perspicuous, concise and modern, but without essential change of legal intentment. The head notes and particularly the side notes have been corrected and condensed, and the cross-references increased in number; the marginal references now include the first seventy-four volumes of the Maine Reports.

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The Constitution of the United States and its Amendments have been carefully annotated and embrace Volume CVI of the United States Supreme Court Reports. The General Index has been enriched by more copious references and the arrangement has been improved so far as it was deemed susceptible of emendation without the substitution of a radically new system. The consolidation of the general and constitutional indexes will, it is believed, promote simplicity and convenience. The Reference Indexes and the Reference Index Tables are new features. In their preparation no care has been spared in the effort to insure accuracy in these references *forward* from the revision of 1871 and the subsequent public laws. By a slight enlargement of the page, the proportions of the volume have been preserved without diminishing the size of the type. It is hoped that the Fourth Revision will be found, both in substance and in form, not unworthy of the State.

C. W. GODDARD,  
*Commissioner.*

PORTLAND, December 31, 1883.

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[NOTE. The first Revised Statutes of Maine was the work of Prentiss Mellen, Samuel E. Smith, Philip Eastman and Ebenezer Everett; the act of revision was passed October 22, 1840, and took effect April 2, 1841.

The second revision was prepared by John B. Hill, Joseph Baker, James Bell, Ether Shepley, Noah Smith, Jr., Warren H. Vinton and Louis O. Cowan; it was enacted April 17, 1857 and took effect January 1, 1858.

The third revision was made by Joseph Baker, Ephraim Flint, Jr. and Edwin W. Wedgewood; it was passed January 25, 1871, and took effect February 1, 1871.]