

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1857.

PART SECOND.

AUGUSTA:
STEVENS & BLAINE, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1857.

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.]

[No. 30.

REPORT

OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND BINDING.

The Joint Select Committee on Printing and Binding, to whom was referred an order directing them "to contract with some suitable person or persons to print and bind the new Revision of the Statutes of this State," have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to

REPORT.

The first step taken by the Committee, was to ascertain as nearly as possible the number of copies required for the public use; and upon investigation they found that with no more liberal distribution of the Statutes than was adopted by the Legislature in the previous Revision of 1840, it will require some 1250 copies, merely for the gratuities of the State. The Committee could not consider it wise policy or judicious economy to curtail the number of copies thus gratuitously distributed; because one of the prime duties of the law-making power is to afford to every person upon whom the laws operate, the most ample facilities for obtaining a knowledge of their provisions. The Committee, therefore, concluded that 1500 copies was the smallest edition that would answer the demands and interests of the State, and they accordingly recommend that number; believing at the same time that if it should be changed by the Legislature, it should be to an increase rather than a diminution. Only 250 copies will be left in the office of the Secretary of State to answer the numerous demands that will be made upon future

Legislatures for them during the many years which, it is hoped and believed, will elapse before another revision becomes necessary. This number is certainly too small, rather than too large.

In regard to the price to be paid, the Committee were careful to obtain all the information within their reach. They found that the Legislature of 1840 paid \$2,50 per volume *absolutely*, with 25 cents additional—contingent upon the size of the volume. The Statutes now to be printed will make a volume about one fourth larger than was then printed; so that without any regard to the enhanced price of material and cost of labor *now, as compared with seventeen years ago*, (amounting it is believed to fully 20 *per cent.* in all the departments of printing) it is quite evident that a somewhat larger price should be paid. If this price, however, should be calculated simply with regard to the increased size of the volume, and to the enhanced cost of printing the same, it would add at least \$1,00 to the price of each copy, making the cost \$3,50 per volume. The Committee took into consideration the fact that the proposed edition was somewhat larger than that published in 1840, and that for that reason, the printers could afford to abate something on the price, which they would seem otherwise entitled to receive. They therefore concluded, that the medium price charged for the Statutes now in the market was about fair and just; viz.: \$3,00 per volume. The Committee therefore recommend \$3,00 as the price to be paid by the State, and also by the public for the first two years succeeding the publication, and that after that time the Publishers be allowed to charge \$3,50 per copy.

It is to be remembered, that the Publishers are bound to keep a sufficient number of copies of the Statutes for sale in three cities of the State, for the space of five years after the first publication, and that the risk of printing too large or too small an edition, is a circumstance which obviously prevents such a contract having any fixed or determinate value. The Committee consulted skillful printers who were entirely disinterested in the matter, and the

PRINTING AND BINDING REVISED STATUTES. 3

uniform testimony was, that \$3.00 per copy was as low as the Statutes could be afforded, with as small an edition as that demanded, and with all the risks and responsibilities connected with the publication.

Having thus arrived at the number of copies to be printed, and the price to be paid, it only remained for the Committee to contract with some suitable persons to execute the work; and the Committee have to report that they have made such contract with Messrs. Wheeler & Lynde, of Bangor; gentlemen practically acquainted with the printing business, and in every way competent and responsible for the execution of the work. Messrs. Wheeler & Lynde have already signified their acceptance of the contract on the terms set forth in this report, and their readiness to give bond and security for the prompt and faithful execution of the same.

The Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying Resolves. All of which is respectfully submitted.

On behalf of the Committee,

ABNER R. HALLOWELL, *Senate Chairman.*

WILLIAM DUREN, *House Chairman.*

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES relating to the Publication of the Revised Statutes.

Resolved, That as soon as may be, after the close of the
2 present session of the Legislature, the Revised Statutes of this
3 State, together with the Constitution thereof, the Constitution
4 of the United States, the repealing act, and such other additions
5 as are necessary, shall be published by Messrs. Wheeler &
6 Lynde, of Bangor, in a style not inferior in printing, paper
7 and binding, to that of the last edition of the Revised Statutes
8 published by Masters & Smith of Hallowell; and said Wheeler
9 & Lynde are hereby required to supply the State on or before
10 the first day of October next, with fifteen hundred copies, and
11 keep for sale at some convenient place in the cities of Portland,
12 Augusta and Bangor, for the term of five years, a sufficient
13 number of copies of said Revised Statutes to supply the demand,
14 to be sold to any persons at the same price per copy that may
15 be paid by the State, and to receive in addition, after two
16 years from the first day of October next, fifty cents on each
17 copy; and that the Treasurer of State shall take from Messrs.

18 Wheeler & Lynde aforesaid, a bond, with security in the sum of
19 two thousand dollars, to ensure the performance of the aforesaid
20 conditions, and that the said Revised Statutes shall be supplied
21 to the State and exposed for sale as aforesaid, at the rate of
22 three dollars for each copy.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State is hereby directed
2 to secure the copyright of said Revised Statutes for the use
3 of the State, and that no edition of the same shall be published
4 by any other persons than the aforesaid Wheeler & Lynde,
5 until after the expiration of five years from the first day of
6 October next.

Resolved, That said fifteen hundred copies of the Revised
2 Statutes shall, when printed, be deposited by the said Wheeler
3 and Lynde in the office of the Secretary of State, and the
4 Secretary is hereby directed to distribute the same as follows,
5 viz: one copy to each commissioner employed in the revision
6 thereof; one copy to each member of the present Legislature,
7 and the respective officers thereof; one copy to the Governor
8 and to each member of the Executive Council. To the follow-
9 ing public officers for the use of the respective offices they fill,
10 and the counties wherein they reside, one copy each, viz: the
11 Attorney General, the Reporter of decisions, the Treasurer of
12 State, the Secretary of State, the Land Agent, the Adju-
13 tant General, each Bank Commissioner, the Superintendent of

6 PRINTING AND BINDING REVISED STATUTES.

14 common schools, the Superintendent of public buildings, the
15 Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Municipal or Police
16 Court of each city in the State, the Clerks of Courts, the County
17 Attorneys, Sheriffs, Judges of Probate, Registers of Probate,
18 Registers of Deeds, County Commissioners, Treasurers and
19 keepers of jails in each county. To the warden of State prison
20 one copy, and to the several Clerks of the cities, towns and
21 plantations, one copy each for the use of said cities, towns and
22 plantations. To each college, theological institution, and in-
23 corporated academy or seminary, one copy each ; to each or-
24 ganized mechanics' association, or mercantile association, one copy
25 each ; to each library kept for the benefit of the public one copy
26 each. One copy to the Maine Historical Society, and to the law
27 library of each county in the State ; and to the Judge of the United
28 States for the eastern circuit ; to the Judge of the United States
29 for the district of Maine ; to the Clerk and U. S. Attorney, for said
30 district ; to the Secretary of State of the United States,
31 four copies ; to the Secretary of State of each State in the Union,
32 three copies each ; to the library of Congress four copies ; to
33 the President and Vice President of the United States, one copy
34 each ; to the Secretary of the Senate of this State, six copies
35 for the use of the Senate ; to the Clerk of the House, fifteen
36 copies for the use of the House ; to the Librarian of the State
37 library, ten copies for the use of the library ; and the remainder

38 of said fifteen hundred copies shall be deposited in the Sec-
39 retary of State's office, to be distributed from time to time as
40 the Legislature may direct; and the several persons in this
41 State, furnished with the Revised Statutes as aforesaid, (ex-
42 cepting the Governor, Councilors, Members and officers of the
43 Legislature) shall be responsible for the same, and deliver it to
44 his successor in office, to be continually kept for the use of the
45 office.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
March 21, 1857. }

ORDERED, That the foregoing Report and Resolves be laid on the table, and
350 copies be printed for the use of the Legislature.

GEO. W. WILCOX, *Clerk.*