

modifications, and all the entirely new amendatory and supplemental legislation is introduced in the proper articles.

It was obviously impossible, without perplexing confusion, to retain the same numbers and letters of the *Sections* of the articles in the old Code and in the subsequent legislation repealing and re-enacting these sections and adding new sections, and hence, from the manifest necessity of the case, the lettering has been discarded and new numbers have been given to the sections wherever this was requisite, but to facilitate the work of tracing the changes and the additions to the pre-existing law, references are made above each section showing its origin and subsequent changes.

Reference to the alphabetical index under the heading "Acts of Assembly" will readily show the place where every Public General Act now in force passed since the adoption of the Code of 1888 can be found codified.

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The practice has long existed in Maryland of enacting laws applicable only to one or more of the counties of the State, and consequently there are Public Local Laws applicable to one or more of the counties, differing, sometimes slightly and sometimes very materially, from the Public General Laws covering the same general subjects. And so, too, is this the case in a marked degree as to the city of Baltimore by reason of its peculiar condition and needs.

To meet this case and to avoid the difficulty of interpretation which would necessarily arise from having a Public General Law and at the same time a Public Local Law on the same subject applicable only to one or more of the counties or to the city of Baltimore, Rule 12 of the "Rules of Interpretation" provides that "where the Public General Law and the Public Local Law of any county, city, town or district are in conflict, the Public Local Law shall prevail."