

# PUBLIC GENERAL LAWS.

## ARTICLE 1.

### RULES OF INTERPRETATION.

1. Adoption of code not to impair vested rights, nor discharge contracts, nor affect pending suits and prosecutions.
2. Nor to preclude prosecution for offences previously committed.
3. Repeal of statute not to preclude action or prosecution for penalty or liability previously incurred.
4. Nor to impair rights under charter or grant from State.
5. Administrator to include executor.
6. Decedent to include testator and intestate.
7. Masculine to include all genders.
8. Singular to include plural.
9. Oath to mean also affirmation.
10. Form of judicial and other oaths.
11. Manner of administering oaths.
12. Boundaries of counties and city of Baltimore.
13. Public local law to prevail in case of conflict with public general law.
14. County to include city of Baltimore.
15. Person to include corporation.
16. Child to include illegitimate child.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 1. 1912, sec. 1. 1904, sec. 1. 1888, sec. 1.

1. The adoption of this code shall not affect or impair any right, vested or acquired and existing at the time of its adoption, nor shall it impair, discharge or release any existing contract, obligation, duty or liability of any kind whatsoever. All pending suits, actions and prosecutions for crimes or misdemeanors, including all civil and criminal proceedings whatsoever, shall be prosecuted and proceeded with to final determination, and judgment entered therein as if this code had not been adopted.

Where process has been issued in a suit brought prior to the adoption of the Code (of 1860), and the process has to be renewed after such adoption, such renewal should be in the form prescribed by the Code, and the necessary change in the form of the process does not make it a new suit. *State v. Logan*, 33 Md. 7.

Where a decree for the sale of real estate in which an infant has an interest was passed before the adoption of the Code (of 1860) but the sale was not made until afterwards, the proceeds must be invested in accordance with the Code. *Gill v. Wells*, 59 Md. 500.

A right vested by an act of assembly prior to the adoption of the Code (of 1860), is not impaired by such adoption. *State v. Hall*, 22 Md. 335.

Cited but not construed in *Longley v. Jones*, 26 Md. 473.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 2. 1912, sec. 2. 1904, sec. 2. 1888, sec. 2.

2. If any crime, misdemeanor or other violation of law hath been committed and no prosecution or other proceeding hath been commenced against the offender before the adoption of this code, then such offender may be proceeded against by indictment or otherwise, and punished in the same manner as if this code had not been adopted.

The Code of 1888 stands in lieu of, and as a substitute for, laws in force at the time of its adoption, *Erb v. Grimes*, 94 Md. 104.

Act of 1939, ch. 418, legalized the An. Code of Md., edition of 1939, edited by Horace E. Flack, and made it evidence of the law.