

sentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall be the duty of the court of quarter sessions for the city and county of Philadelphia, and they are hereby empowered and directed to issue their order for opening a part, or the whole of any street, road, lane or alley in the said recited act mentioned, if upon application and due consideration they shall deem it expedient so to do, from the state of improvement in the neighborhood.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE, *Speaker*  
of the House of Representatives.

ISAAC WEAVER,  
*Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the twenty-seventh day of March, one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

WILLIAM FINDLAY.

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CHAPTER LXXIII.

*AN ACT*

To prevent kidnapping.

SECT. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That if any person or persons shall from and after the passing of this act, by force or violence take and carry away, or cause to be taken and carried away, or shall by fraud or false pretences seduce or cause to be seduced, or shall attempt so to take, carry away or seduce any negro or mulatto from any part or parts of this Commonwealth, to any other place or places whatsoever, out of this Commonwealth, with a design and intention of selling and disposing of, or of causing to be sold, or of keeping and detaining, or of causing to be kept and detained, such negro or mulatto as a slave or servant for a year or years, every such person or persons, his or their aiders and abettors, shall on conviction thereof in any court of this Commonwealth having competent jurisdiction, be deemed guilty of a felony, and shall forfeit and pay at the discretion of the court passing the sentence, any sum not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than two thousand dollars, one half whereof shall be paid to the person or persons who shall prosecute for the same, and the other half to this Commonwealth, and moreover shall be sentenced to undergo a servitude for any term or time not less than seven years,*

The crime of kidnapping defined.

Punishment.

not exceeding twenty-one years, and shall be confined, kept to hard labor, fed and clothed in manner as is directed by the penal laws of this Commonwealth for persons convicted of robbery.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons shall hereafter knowingly sell, transfer or assign, or shall knowingly purchase, take a transfer or assignment of any negro or mulatto, for the purpose of fraudulently removing, exporting or carrying such negro or mulatto out of this state, with the design or intent, by force or false pretences of making him or her a slave or servant for life, or for any term whatsoever, every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof shall forfeit and pay a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than two thousand dollars, one half whereof shall be paid to the person or persons who shall prosecute for the same, and the other half to this Commonwealth, and moreover shall be sentenced at the discretion of the court, to undergo a servitude for any term or time not less than seven years, nor exceeding twenty one years, and shall be confined, kept to hard labor, fed and clothed in manner as is directed by the penal laws of this Commonwealth for persons convicted of robbery: *Provided always,* That nothing herein contained shall be construed as a repeal or alteration of any part of an act of Assembly, passed on the first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, entitled "An act, for the gradual abolition of slavery," nor of any part of an act of Assembly, passed on the twenty-ninth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, entitled "An act, to explain and amend an act, for the gradual abolition of slavery," except the seventh section of this last mentioned act, which is hereby supplied and repealed.

SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That no alderman or justice of the peace of this Commonwealth shall have jurisdiction, or take cognizance of the case of any fugitive from labor from any of the United States or Territories, under a certain act of Congress, passed on the twelfth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, entitled "An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters;" nor shall any alderman or justice of the peace of this Commonwealth, issue or grant any certificate or warrant of removal of any such fugitive from labor as aforesaid, upon the application, affidavit or testimony of any person or persons whatsoever, under the said act of Congress, or under any other law, authority or act of the Congress of the United States; and if any alderman or justice of the peace of this Commonwealth shall contravene the provisions of this act, shall take cognizance or jurisdiction of the case of any such fugitive as aforesaid, or shall grant or issue any certificate or warrant of removal as aforesaid, then, and in either case, he

Punishment of aldermen & justices for disobeying this act.

shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor in office, and shall on conviction thereof be sentenced to pay at the discretion of the court, any sum not less than five hundred dollars, nor exceeding one thousand dollars, the one half whereof shall be paid to the party prosecuting for the same, and the other half to the use of this Commonwealth.

Duty of judges & recorders under this act.

SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That it shall be the duty of any judge or recorder of any court of record of this Commonwealth, when he grants or issues any certificate or warrant of removal of any negro or mulatto, claimed to be a fugitive from labor to the State or Territory from which he or she fled in pursuance of an act of Congress, passed on the twelfth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, entitled "An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters," he shall make a fair record of the case, in which he shall enter the name, age, sex, and a general description of the person of the negro or mulatto, for whom he shall grant such certificate or warrant of removal, together with the evidence and the names of places of residence of the witnesses and the party claiming such negro or mulatto, and shall within ten days thereafter file a certified copy thereof in the office of the clerk of the court of general quarter sessions of the peace, of the city or county in which he may reside.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE, *Speaker*  
of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM MARKS, Junior,  
*Speaker of the Senate.*

APPROVED—the twenty-seventh day of March, one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

WILLIAM FINDLAY.

CHAPTER LXXIV.

A SUPPLEMENT

To an act, entitled "An act to incorporate the town of Columbia, in the county of Lancaster."

SECT. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the chief burgess of the borough of Columbia, elected and qualified agreeably to the act to which this is a supplement, is hereby authorised and empowered to issue his