

[No. 165.]

AN ACT

To punish seduction, and to afford a more adequate civil remedy for the injury.

SECTION 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 seduction of any female of good repute, under twenty-one years of age, with illicit connexion, under promise of marriage, is hereby declared to be an indictable offence, in addition to the remedies now given by law, for the perpetration of this great private and public wrong; and any person who shall be convicted of the offence of seduction as aforesaid, in any court of quarter sessions of the peace of this commonwealth, shall be sentenced to pay a

Penalty fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, at the discretion of the court, and further to undergo a solitary confinement at hard labor in the proper penitentiary, for a period of not less than one year, nor longer than three years, at the discretion

Proviso of the court: *Provided,* That in lieu of the imprisonment in the penitentiary, the court may, if the circumstances of the case are mitigated, sentence to imprisonment in the county jail: *Provided further,* That the promise of marriage shall

Evidence not be deemed established unless the testimony of the female seduced is corroborated by other evidence, either circumstantial or positive.

SECTION 2. That the action of seduction may be maintained and sued by any mother, where the father is deceased, of the female seduced, to recover damages for loss of service or for such aggravations as may have attended the commission of the injury.

HENDRICK B. WRIGHT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM BIGLER,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The nineteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three.

DAVID R. PORTER.