

An Act to amend the Act Chapter 77, of the Consolidated Statutes for Upper Canada, intituled "An Act respecting the action of seduction and the support of illegitimate children."

WHEREAS the remedy provided by the Act respecting the action Preamble.
of seduction and the support of illegitimate children, chapter 77 of the Consolidated Statutes for Upper Canada, has proved insufficient in many cases of great hardship in which relief ought to be granted, by reason of the neglect of the persons mentioned therein as being entitled to bring such action, or of their decease, or of their being absent from the Province, or being under other disability :

Therefore Her Majesty, &c:

1. In addition to the persons mentioned in the said Act as competent to sustain an action for the seduction of an unmarried female, it shall and may be lawful for any relative or friend of the person seduced, approved of and thereunto appointed by any Judge of either of the Superior Courts of law in Upper Canada or the Judge of the County Court for the County in which the seduction took place, or by the Judge of the County Court for the County in which such friend or relative of the seduced party may reside, on the application of the party seduced or of such friend or relative to such Judge, and upon cause shewn by affidavit, to bring and sustain an action for such seduction, at any time and in any case at and in which the master of the party seduced could sustain an action for such seduction under the said Act, but subject to the provisions contained in the said Act, in so far as they are not inconsistent with those of this Act. In addition to the persons mentioned in cap. 77 of Con. Stat., U. C., a judge may appoint a person to bring the action for seduction.

2. The Judge who shall so approve of and appoint a relative or friend of the person seduced as the party entitled to sustain any action for seduction, or in his default the Judge who shall try the case, or any other such Judge as aforesaid, shall have power to direct in what manner the damages that may be recovered shall be appropriated and disposed of for the benefit of the person seduced and her offspring born in consequence of such seduction, and neither this provision nor the exercise of the power given by it, shall affect her admissibility as a witness in the case. Judge to direct how damages recovered shall be applied.

3. All causes of action that may have arisen within *two* years previous to the passing of this Act, shall be cognizable under this Act in all Courts having jurisdiction in cases of seduction in Upper Canada. Act to apply to certain cases.