



ANNO VICESIMO OCTAVO ET VICESIMO NONO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

A.D. 1865.

No. 7.

An Act to amend the Law of Slander.

[Assented to, 4th August, 1865.]

WHEREAS the Law does not provide any remedy for the speaking and publishing of words imputing a want of chastity to a woman: And whereas it is desirable that the law should in that respect be amended, and that an action should be sustainable for such words in the same manner and to the same extent as for words charging an indictable offence: And whereas doubts have arisen concerning the true effect of an Act made and passed in the 26th and 27th years of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act to amend the law relating to Defamatory Words," and it is desirable to repeal the same—Be it therefore Enacted, by the Governor-in-Chief of the Province of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of the said Province, in this present Parliament assembled, as follows:

Preamble.

1. The said Act shall be and is hereby repealed, except so far as may be necessary for the purpose of supporting any proceedings actually commenced thereunder before the passing hereof.

Repeal of No. 16 of 1863.

2. Words spoken and published of any woman imputing to her a want of chastity, shall be and shall be deemed to be slander, and an action shall be sustainable for such words in the same manner and to the same extent as for words charging an indictable offence.

Words imputing a want of chastity to a woman to be actionable.

In the name and on behalf of the Queen I hereby assent to this Act.

D. DALY, Governor.