

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNO OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ

No. 6

An Act to prevent the enticing away the Girls of the Aboriginal Race from School, or from any Service in which they are employed.

[Assented to 1st August, 1844.]

Preamble

WHEREAS laudable efforts have been made to introduce Christianity and civilisation amongst the aboriginal race of this Colony by instructing their youths of both sexes in schools, and admitting them as domestic servants into families of the colonists, and whereas it is expedient to provide a remedy against mischievous and evil-disposed persons enticing away the girls of that race either from the schools in which they are kept or from the houses in which they are employed: Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia and its Dependencies, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, that from and after the passing of this Act, any person who shall be convicted before any two or more Justices of the Peace of this colony of having enticed or persuaded any girl of the aboriginal race to leave any school without the previous consent of a Protector of aborigines, or of the master or mistress of such school or the service in which she has been engaged, without the previous consent of her master or mistress, shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding Two Pounds for the first offence, and Five Pounds for the second or any subsequent offence, to be recovered according to the provisions of an Act of the Legislative Council of this Colony, passed in the seventh year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled 'An Act to regulate summary proceedings before Justices of the Peace.'

Any person convicted of having enticed any girl of the aboriginal race from school or from service to forfeit a sum not exceeding £2 for the first offence, and £5 for the second or any subsequent offence

Limitation of prosecutions

2. And be it enacted, that all informations and proceedings in respect of offences against this Act shall be commenced within three calendar months after the offences thereby respectively charged shall have been committed.

Appeal

3. And be it enacted, that any person who shall think himself aggrieved by any judgment or conviction under this Act may appeal to the next Court of Quarter Sessions.

Act may be amended

4. And be it enacted, that this Act may be altered, amended, or repealed by any Act to be passed during this present session.

JOHN HUTT,  
GOVERNOR.