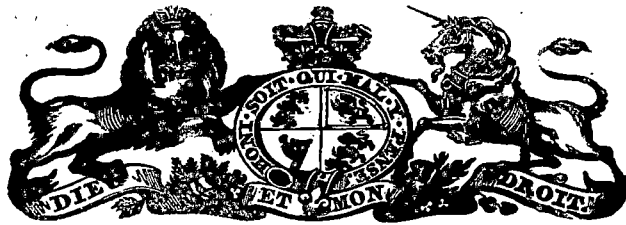


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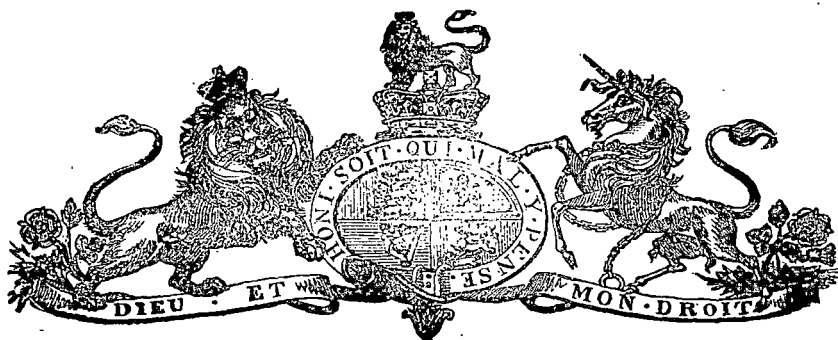
1884.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

**WOMEN AND CHILDREN EMPLOYMENT
BILL, (No. 5) :**

PETITIONS.

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be printed.



[Presented by Mr. Crowther, October 15, 1884; ordered to be printed, October 16, 1884.]

To the Honorable the President and Members of the Legislative Council.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Jam Manufacturers of Hobart,

SHOWETH :

THAT should the "Women and Children Employment Bill," as passed by the House of Assembly, and now before your Honorable House, become law, it will *interfere most seriously* with our industry, and inflict great hardships on the small settlers, who are almost entirely depending on a market for their fruit as hereinafter explained.

1st. Owing to the perishable nature of fruit it is imperatively necessary to manufacture it as quickly as possible after being received.

2nd. Provided that we are not allowed sufficient time to manufacture all that is offered, we will be compelled to refuse more than we can cope with in the time allowed, and the fruit will consequently be thrown on the growers' hands to perish after they have been at the expense of picking and carting it in.

3rd. The supply of labour at this particular period of the year is inadequate to the demand, hop-picking and fruit-gathering taking each their quota from the labour market.

4th. Children are employed in the very light capacity of plum and gooseberry picking, and as they are paid per bushel they are at free liberty, and do come and go at will, no restrictions whatever being placed upon them; nevertheless they are indispensable assistants at the work.

5th. Women and young persons, like children, are indispensable during this season of the year.

For the above and other reasons we trust that your Honorable House will not sanction the restrictions sought to be imposed upon our industry during the Fruit season.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHNSON BROS. & CO.
H. & T. PEAK.
C. E. KNIGHT & CO.
W. WILSON & SONS.

Hobart, Tasmania, 13th October, 1884.

[Presented by Mr. Moore, October 17, 1884; ordered to be printed, October 22, 1884.]

To the Honorable the President and Members of the Legislative Council,
in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Proprietors of the Derwent Woollen Mills,

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT whereas there is now before your Honorable House a Bill, intituled "*A Bill for regulating the Employment of Women and Children in Workrooms and Factories*," we the undersigned proprietors of the Derwent Woollen Mills, having had it submitted for our consideration, beg respectfully to bring under the notice of your Honorable House the following considerations. We have just begun a woollen mill industry in Hobart, and should the Bill become law in its present form a very serious injury will be done to us, without any advantage to those in our employment. We have to state that the ten hours a day during which our mills at present work require attention from the women and young people of the very lightest description, while the young people employed are seldom under fourteen years of age. Should the women and young people employed by us be prevented from working ten hours a day, our skilled workmen, brought by us to this Colony at great expense, will be hindered from carrying out the engagements under which they were induced to come here: we will also be unable to produce our manufactures at the required price. Our workmen will thus be thrown out of employment, our mills will be compulsorily closed, and our enterprise crushed,—as we will be quite unable to compete with the manufactories in Victoria and at home, where the mills run ten hours a day.

For these reasons your Petitioners humbly pray that such Bill may not receive the sanction of your Honorable House in its present form.

JOHNSTONE BROS. & CO.

WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.