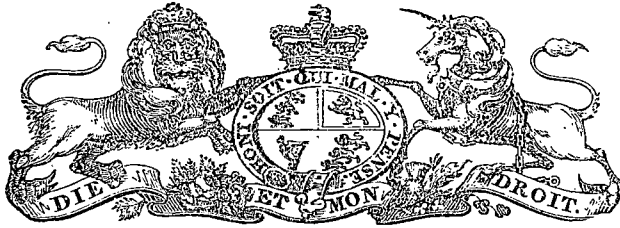


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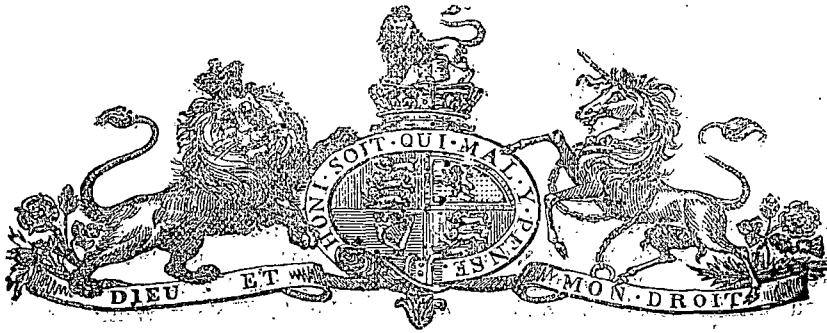
1893.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

THE HOBART WATER BILL, [No. 27]:

PETITION FROM TOWN BOARDS AND ROAD TRUSTS FOR
INQUIRY INTO ALLEGED INJUSTICE.

Presented by Mr. Hamilton, September 27, 1893, and ordered by the House of
Assembly to be printed, September 29, 1893.



To the Honorable the Speaker and Honorable Members of the House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of The Town Board of New Town; The Town Board of Queenborough; The Town Board of Mount Stuart; The Town Board of Glebe Town; The Chairman and Members of The Road District of South Glenorchy; The Road District of Queenborough; The Road District of Leslie; and The Road District of Wellesley,

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

1. That, prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty, the water supply for the City of Hobart and its suburbs was vested in the Crown.

2. That, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty, the rights vested in the Crown were, by the Hobart Water Act, 1860, vested in the Corporation of the City of Hobart for the purposes of the said Act.

3. That the purposes of the said Water Act of one thousand eight hundred and sixty were (the then supply being insufficient for the city and the suburbs thereof) to provide a better supply, and to vest in the Corporation for the purposes of the Act certain streams of water mentioned in the same, which comprised the natural sources of supply for the district created by the Act.

4. That an equal power of rating was granted to the Corporation over the district, and liberty was given to mortgage the rates and charges leviable under the Act for the purpose of raising moneys to carry out its objects.

5. That the residents of the suburbs of Hobart have accepted the terms made by the said Act, and have taken the water under its provisions, and have in many cases expended considerable sums in providing and laying pipes to their houses.

6. That your Petitioners have learnt that it is proposed by a Bill now before your Honorable House to materially alter the conditions of the said Act of one thousand eight hundred and sixty, and to impose fresh conditions which will inflict a manifest injustice upon the residents in the suburbs of the City of Hobart.

7. That such Bill has been introduced without consultation with your Petitioners, who are the local authorities representing all the suburban residents affected by the said Bill.

8. That your Petitioners are informed the Corporation of Hobart rely upon the precedent furnished by the Launceston Water Acts; but your Petitioners respectfully submit that there is no analogy between the position of a resident outside Launceston, who was required before receiving the water to enter into a special agreement to pay a fixed amount for such water, and the position of a resident outside Hobart, who, under the Water Act of one thousand eight hundred and sixty, had a right conferred upon him by the Legislature.

9. That no sufficient reason has been given by the Corporation of Hobart for altering the conditions of the said Act; and the taking away of the so long existing rights of your Petitioners would, under the circumstances, be so extraordinary an application of the power vested in the Legislature as the supreme dispenser of justice, that your Petitioners respectfully decline to believe your Honorable House will assent to the proposal of the Corporation until your Petitioners' case shall have been thoroughly enquired into.

10. That by 41 Victoria, No. 2, Section 13, no occupier of suburban property was liable for payment of Water Rates unless his premises were, with his consent, actually supplied with water.

11. That by 55 Victoria, No. 65, Section 3, the above provision was repealed, and all suburban occupiers made liable to water rates if the mains of the Corporation are within 50 yards of the outer boundary of the premises.

12. That all moneys borrowed under the said Acts, and which now amount to more than £150,000, have been so borrowed without your Petitioners having any voice in the borrowing or the expenditure, though the repayment of the same is charged upon the rates leviable upon your Petitioners.

13. That, on the fourteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, a meeting of the Members of the City Council and your Petitioners was held at the Town Hall, Hobart, and the following Resolution was, after discussion, carried; namely:—"That it is expedient, for the better provision of the cost of the water supply of Hobart and its suburbs, that an area should be defined within which the work contemplated by the Hobart Water Act, 1860, shall be confined, and that upon the definition of such area and provision being made for the formation of a Water Trust representing it to control and administer all matters connected with the water supply, the owners of suburban properties become jointly liable with equal rating for the redemption of the principal of the loans hitherto or to be hereafter contracted in connection with the water supply of Hobart and suburbs;" but, on the matter being subsequently discussed at a special meeting of the City Council held on the twenty-eighth day of June last, it was resolved "That this Council is of opinion that at present it is inopportune to accede to the request for the formation of a Water Trust in connection with the suburban bodies."

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will cause full enquiry to be made into the facts herein set forth, and that no Act may be allowed to become law which would deprive your Petitioners of the rights already vested in them, or to place them on any other basis than that fixed by the original Act of one thousand eight hundred and sixty; and, further, that in the proposed amendment of the law provision may be made for the creation of a Water Trust over the area now supplied with water.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

The Common Seal of the Board and Electors of the Town of New Town was affixed hereunto by Order of the Board, this fifteenth day of August, 1893.

R. J. ELLIS, *Secretary.*

F. W. PIESSE, *Chairman.*
G. C. BERNARD,
S. H. BURROWS,
W. P. BROWNELL,
J. G. STEELE,
F. G. KNIGHT,
H. C. LOVETT,

} *Members of the
Board of the Town
of New Town.*

The Common Seal of the Board and Electors of the Town of Queenborough was affixed hereunto by Order of the Board, this sixteenth day of August, 1893.

A. CHANCELLOR, *Secretary.*

JAMES GREGORY, *Chairman.*
CHARLES W. BUTLER,
C. A. CHAPMAN,
A. ECKFORD,
W. E. BAYNTON,
WM. BATT,
J. RIDLEY WALKER,

} *Members of the
Board of the Town
of Queenborough.*

The Common Seal of the Board and Electors of the Town of Mount Stuart was hereunto affixed by Order of the Board, this twenty-third day of August, 1893.

A. STRATHERN, *Hon. Sec.*

ALEX. STRATHERN, *Chairman.*

S. J. CATO, *Trustee,*
J. BIDENCOPE,

} *Members of the
Board of the Town
of Mount Stuart.*

The Common Seal of the Glebe Town Town Board is hereunto affixed by Order of the Board, this seventeenth day of August, 1893.

ARTHUR P. BARNETT, *Secretary.*

C. H. GRANT, *Chairman.*

A. RIDDOCH, WM. CHEVERTON, ROBERT HEMPSEED, H. SCULTHORP,	}	<i>Members of the Glebe Town Town Board.</i>
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EDW. J. BURGESS, *Chairman South Glenorchy
Road Trust.*

WILLIAM BARLOW, C. M. COOLEY, CHAS. SAML. PAYNE,	}	<i>Members of the South Glenorchy Road Trust.</i>
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FRED. J. SALIER, *Chairman Queenborough
Road Trust.*

WILLIAM PERKINS, JOHN T. READ, EDW. ART. MILLS, H. W. BAYLEY, H. NICHOLLS,	}	<i>Members of the Queenborough Road Trust.</i>
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J. L. LIVINGSTON, *Chairman Leslie Road
Trust.*

THOMAS W. JONES, H. J. CONNOR, E. J. BAYNTON, VIVIAN L. BUTLER,	}	<i>Trustees. Treasurer and Trustee.</i>
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C. V. FISHER, *Chairman Wellesley Road Trust.*

J. WEMYSS SYME, T. S. TODD, W. TODD,	}	<i>Trustees.</i>
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