

(No. 106.)



1883.

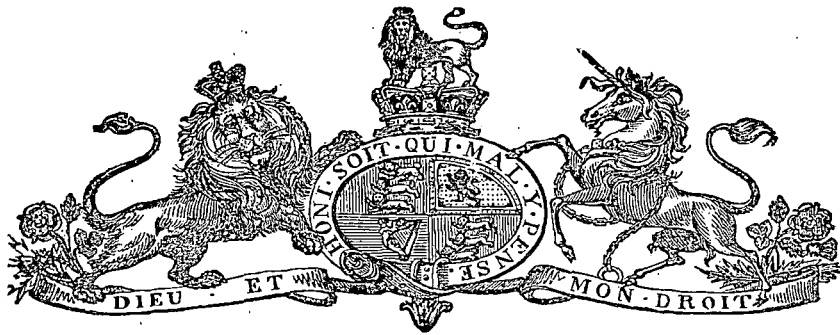
T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

WATER RIGHTS, NORTH WEST BAY :

PETITION AGAINST FURTHER ENCROACHMENTS.

Presented by Mr. Lucas ; and ordered by the House to be printed, August 29, 1883.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned owners and occupiers of land situate in the District of Kingborough and the vicinity of the North West Bay River.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

That the Corporation of Hobart is about to apply to the Legislature for an Act to enable them to extend their Waterworks beyond the limits assigned by Act of Parliament (1880, 43rd Victoria No. 22), to the serious detriment and permanent injury of the property of your Petitioners.

That your Petitioners respectfully protest against further encroachment on their rights of water supply in contravention of the arrangement already entered into between the said Corporation and your Petitioners.

Your Petitioners would respectfully bring under your notice the following facts as affording reasonable grounds for surmising that further encroachment is contemplated on their just rights of water supply.

The Hobart Town Water Act, 1860, secured water supply for domestic purposes only, and the amount was limited, by compromise, in the year 1872, to certain streams stated by their Surveyor to amount to one-third of the water of the North West Bay River.

In 1875 the Act was amended by extending the supply to the Suburbs and to other than domestic purposes.

In 1877 provision was made for raising a revenue from water rates levied on water supplied for manufacturing and other than domestic purposes; also the amount of water supply, which had previously been estimated at one-third, was then stated by the Surveyor to be fully two-thirds of the whole North West Bay River.

In 1882 additional iron pipes have been obtained and a tramway constructed for the avowed object of extending the water supply to beyond St. Crispin's Well, and the line cleared to it, as shown on the Corporation's new chart.

Your Petitioners would further respectfully impress on the attention of your Honorable House the fact that originally the water supply was ostensibly obtained for domestic purposes only, and only on that understanding was it given up; whereas in 1875 the Act was enlarged to enable the Corporation to sell water for manufacturing and irrigation purposes, and it is now offered at so much per million gallons at a reduced rate for the above purposes.

In view of the rapid diminution of the water supply of the North West Bay River your Petitioners are apprehensive that the remaining third of the river will be appropriated, and they will be reduced to the necessity of re-purchasing the water of their own river from those who have deprived them of it in order to derive a considerable source of revenue therefrom.

On these grounds your Petitioners humbly request that your Honorable House will be pleased to take such steps to protect their interests as in this behalf may be deemed adequate for all future time.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 30 signatures.]