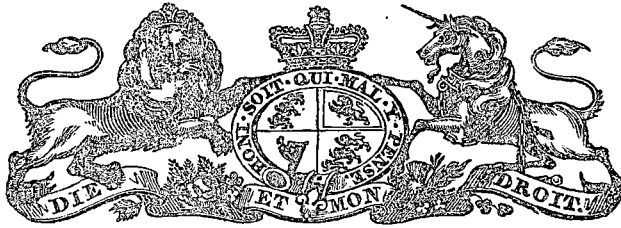


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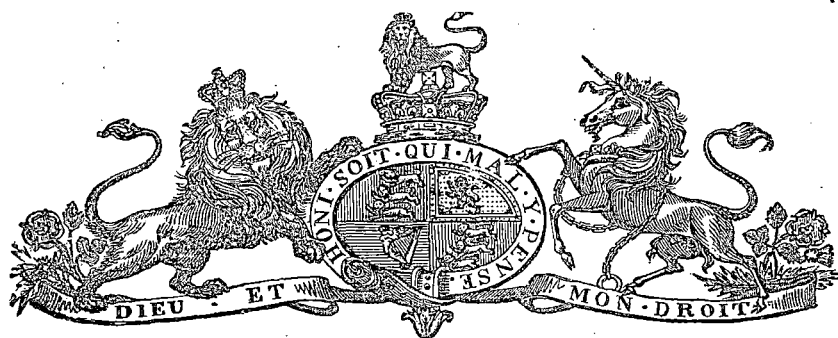
1865.

T A S M A N I A .

P E T I T I O N

FROM CERTAIN CITIZENS OF HOBART TOWN AGAINST THE
SCHOLARSHIPS ACT REPEAL BILL.

Presented by Mr. Balfé, and ordered by the House to be printed, 17 August,
1865.



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

The respectful Petition of the undersigned Citizens of Hobart Town and Parents of Boys competing for Exhibitions and Scholarships under the "Tasmanian Council of Education Act."

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners view with the profoundest regret the introduction into your Honorable House of a Bill having for its object the abolition of the Tasmanian Scholarships.

Your Petitioners desire to lay before your Honorable House a few facts connected with these Scholarships, which they sincerely trust will induce your Honorable House to refuse to allow the Bill in question to pass into law.

Since the passing of the Tasmanian Scholarships Act, in 1860, there have been forty-six Candidates for the A. A. Degree,—the step to the Tasmanian Scholarships. Of these, twenty-five have passed the examination required for, and have been admitted to, the honorable Degree of Associate of Arts; and three, having been elected to the dignity and honor of Tasmanian Scholars, have gone to the Mother Country to receive the great advantages derivable from an University education.

That the cost during the year 1864 of the Scholarships has only been £466 13s. 4d.; a sum utterly insignificant, in Petitioners' opinion, in comparison with the great advantages to be derived by the Colony from the impetus given to Education.

That during the current year the expenditure will be but little above £600. And your Petitioners would point to the fact, that whilst in the Estimates of Expenditure for 1866 £12,000 are devoted to the primary education of the poorer classes; that £12,000 are devoted to the care and education of the still poorer class of Children in the Queen's Asylum; that £200 are devoted to the education of Ragged Scholars; that £580 are voted for Prizes and Exhibitions open to the boys in every class of School, your Petitioners have learned that your Honorable House have only been asked to vote £716 13s. 4d. for the high and crowning prize of the energy and efforts of the most intelligent boys in the Colony during the year 1866.

Your Petitioners are aware that there are now several Boys, sons of poor parents, working for the A. A. Degree with a view to become Tasmanian Scholars; and that amongst these are Boys who have taken minor Exhibitions from the Government Schools; and your Petitioners are also aware that in every School in Tasmania, from the highest to the lowest, these Exhibitions and Scholarships are held out to the Boys as incentives to study, and as the crowning prize of their efforts.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the said Bill may not pass into law; and as in duty bound they will ever pray.

[Signed by 6 Persons.]