

(No. 28.)



1857.

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T A S M A N I A.

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P E T I T I O N.

FROM E. A. WALPOLE—WASTE LANDS.

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Presented by Mr. Balfe, and ordered by the House to be printed, 4 November,  
1857.



*To the Honourable the House of Assembly in Parliament assembled.*

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Franklin and Victoria, on the Huon River, unanimously adopted at a numerous Public Meeting called by Requisition, and presided over by the Police Magistrate at Franklin, October 27, 1857.

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have learned with satisfaction that Bills are now under the consideration of your Honourable House entitled the "Waste Lands Bill," and the "Unsettled Lands Bill," which first Bill provides for a classification of the Waste Lands for a reduction of the present upset price ; for giving, in certain cases, the right of selection and purchase by private contract ; for reducing the present minimum size of lots ; for permitting purchasers to have credit extending over three years ; and in other respects appears greatly calculated to facilitate the acquisition and cultivation of Land by the Yeoman class of settlers.

That the Unsettled Lands Bill proposes to grant to *bonâ fide* Resident Settlers such quantities of Land as they have capital to cultivate ; and to lease, at a peppercorn rent, to Stock-owners and Sheep-owners such land as they can fully stock, in the South-western District of the Island.

That your Petitioners being of opinion that the Lands of that extensive District may be, at least till the country shall have been opened up, more profitably given away, and leased at a nominal Rent, than be permitted to remain wholly unproductive ; and that such a settlement of the District will greatly promote the prosperity of the Island by attracting hither Settlers of capital and enterprise, and by increasing the supply of fresh meat which is now so high in price, pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to pass such Bills into Law.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed, at the request of and in behalf of the Meeting.

E. A. WALPOLE.