

(No. 73.)



1869.

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T A S M A N I A.

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R A B B I T S.

PETITION FROM CAMPBELL TOWN AND ROSS.

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Presented by the Attorney-General, September 10, 1869, and ordered by the House  
to be printed.



*To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly of Tasmania.*

The humble Petition of the undersigned Landholders and others residing in the Districts of Campbell Town and Ross.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners are subject to great losses from the destructive increase of Rabbits; and they believe these losses are not confined to this District, but that they extend to many other parts of the Island, and that the pest is gradually spreading over the whole of it.

That on several Estates in the Midland Districts the increase has been so rapid in the last two or three years as to defy all ordinary means of destruction; and the result has been most injurious to the proprietors in the reduced numbers and condition of their stock, and in the great damage to their crops.

That almost every property in Ross and Campbell Town Districts is becoming more or less overrun, and in this manner the evil is extending in all directions without the least chance of its being stopped in the absence of some general measure for that purpose.

That as yet the evil is confined to comparatively narrow limits, and your Petitioners believe might be successfully dealt with if taken in hand at once, but that delay will increase the difficulty immensely, as a single pair is said to be equal to the production of 500 in one year.

That your Petitioners believe that few persons are aware of the magnitude of the evil, and the consequence of neglecting its first appearance on their land; and they submit that it is of the greatest importance that the subject should be forthwith inquired into, with the view of remedying the evil where it exists, and to stopping its further progress.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to take the subject into early consideration, and adopt such measures as appear to your Honorable House best calculated to meet so great a mischief.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

*Ross, 6th September, 1869.*

*[Here follow 31 Signatures.]*