

(No. 16.)



1858.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N.

S P R I N G B A Y.

Presented by Mr. Meredith, and ordered by the House to be printed, 16 September,
1858.



To the Honourable the Speaker and Honourable Members of the House of Assembly, in Council assembled.

The humble Petition of the Landholders, Householders, and Residents in the District of Spring Bay.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

THAT a considerable portion of your Petitioners addressed a Letter to the Government numerously signed, under date September, 1857, praying that the Government would be pleased to make Spring Bay a Clearance Port; but, to our great disappointment, an answer was received in the negative to our request. With such a reply we should have remained satisfied, had it been a refusal to any ordinary request; but being fully convinced from long experience that the advancement, improvement, and settlement of the East Coast (especially under the new Land Regulations) materially depends upon the Port being opened for the shipment of produce to the neighbouring Colonies, we therefore respectfully urge our Petition to the favourable consideration of your Honourable House.

Spring Bay has been known for years as the only safe Harbour on the East Coast for vessels, numbers to the extent of fifteen at a time having taken advantage of the security it affords, owing to which valuable cargoes have been saved, especially of cattle and sheep.

The extensive beds of oysters would, and to a certain extent do, form a very considerable article of export; together with a Fishery established from Victoria, the produce of which in fish realises in the Melbourne Market an excellent and remunerative return to the Company therein concerned. These facts, coupled with the large amount of farm produce raised,—wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, turnips, carrots, mangold-wurtzel, onions, apples, and pears,—would cause a brisk trade, greatly to the advancement and prosperity of this part of the country particularly, and the Colony generally, and tend to the opening out of lands hitherto lying waste with an abundant supply of timber thereon fit for splitting and sawing, and which would answer naval purposes most admirably, as also a valuable stone quarry at the water's edge, which are rendered totally unavailable from a double shipment of the same. At the same time, also, we desire to bring under your notice the valuable seams of coal in the immediate vicinity of the shipping place, which only requires the advantage of a Free Port, and small amount of capital, to be conveyed to market in the adjacent Colonies.

We pray that your Honourable House will take this our humble Petition of making Spring Bay a Clearance Port into your favourable consideration, and grant our request.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Michael Vicary.	James Claridge, his \times mark.	John Franklin.
John Armstrong.	Stephen H. Grueber.	Daniel Sullivan.
George Rudd.	Alexander Ferguson.	Charles Dobson.
H. J. Vicary.	J. C. Turvey.	John Henessy.
Hugh Donald Maclaine and	T. Thompson.	Frederick Fennell.
John Maclaine, Proprietors	John Howell.	William Spicer.
of the Estate of Woodstock.	W. Arnold.	G. Gelley.
Michael Patton.	W. Townsend.	Thomas Hart.
Melmoth Fletcher.	William Butler.	James Lee.
Charles Fletcher.	Robert Sims.	John Felmingham.
J. H. Woods.	John Ward.	John Lidiard.
S. Hurplin.	Daniel Simpson.	R. Swan.
John Williamson.	Peter Simpson.	J. Howell.
James M'Gregor.	James Green.	James Meadows.
James Staples.	John Gatehouse.	Thomas Crutten,

Robert Blackmore.
Edwin Woodland.
Joseph Lyndon.
Daniel Cutteford.
James Gregson.
Gordon Burgess.
H. Phillippo.
James Barden.
Joseph Miller.
John Bresenhan
James Martin.
Thomas Woollett.
C. A. Galt.
Samuel Drake.
J. Castle.
Walker Thompson.
Henry Stringer.
J. and J. Solomon.
William Carte.

James Doddridge.
James Wright.
Thomas Hawley.
John Hawley.
James Waters.
William Powall.
Thomas Jillett.
Samuel Page.
Thomas Burbury.
William Fitzgerald.
John Radford
William Finch.
John Rudd.
Robert Henderson.
John Cotton.
George Woollett.
Thomas Cuff.
John Gleaves.
Charles Sapine.

James Smith.
Peter Healey.
John Riley.
Mary Hibbotson.
William Burgess.
John Tiddlestone.
John Dawson.
W. Miller.
James Martin.
P. Ryan.
Charles Featherstone.
Robert Gilmore.
Henry Figg.
James M'Leod.
William Taylor.
William Hall.
James Dodge.
H. S. Taperell.