

(No. 76.)



1870.

TASMANIA.

PUBLIC-HOUSE LICENCES.

PETITION FROM REV. S. IRNSIDE.

Presented by Mr. Cook, September 13, 1870, and ordered by the House to be printed.



To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly for the Colony of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Samuel Ironside, of Longford, in the said Colony, Wesleyan Minister.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioner has for Thirty-three years past officiated as Minister of the Gospel in this and the neighbouring Colonies, and has therefore had ample opportunity for acquainting himself with the moral and social state of the people.

That what he has seen and heard, as well in this as in the other Colonies, has led your Petitioner to the deep and earnest conviction—

1. That the greater proportion of poverty, suffering, and crime in the community is the direct result of intemperance.
2. That this vice is fostered and encouraged as the facilities for obtaining drink are afforded.
3. That these facilities for obtaining drink in this Colony are far too numerous, the houses licensed for the sale of liquors being very much in excess of the wants of the people.
4. That the resources of the Colony, as well as the private means of the benevolent and charitable, are unduly taxed to remove or ameliorate the evils resulting from intemperance.
5. That the reduction of the number of licensed houses would not only tend to lessen considerably the demands upon the public purse, but also greatly promote the moral and social improvement of the people.

That your Petitioner would therefore very respectfully pray your Honorable House to take into its earnest consideration the question of Public-house Licences, with a view to lessen the evils arising from intemperance under which the Colony is suffering.

And your Petitioner will ever pray.

SAMUEL IRONSIDE, *Wesleyan Minister.*

Longford, September 5, 1870.