

(No. 114.)



1870.

TASMANIA.

SPRING BAY.

PETITION FOR A PORT OF ENTRY.

Presented by Mr. C. Meredith, September 27, 1870, and ordered by the House
to be printed.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Landowners and Residents in the vicinity of Spring Bay, in the County of Pembroke.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners suffer great and continual loss and inconvenience for the want of a Port of Entry on this part of the East Coast, where the noble bay—considered by nautical men as equal, if not superior, to any in the Australian Colonies—offers a safe harbour, accessible in any weather, to ships of any tonnage; but which, so far as the trade or convenience of the Settlers is concerned, remains a dead letter, instead of an active benefit.

That a large proportion of the produce raised in this neighbourhood consists of various kinds of fruit, for which there is a ready market in Victoria, and a large portion of which is shipped thither direct from hence; but that in the absence of any local Port of Entry, all return goods have to be shipped from Melbourne to Hobart, and thence transhipped to Spring Bay: always at considerable risk, and often loss by delay, and consequent damage.

That the freight and other expenses of this double shipment are twice the amount of what they would be if the said merchandise from Melbourne could be originally shipped direct to its market.

That at the present time vessels are employed in the conveyance of stone to Melbourne from the large quarries at Orford, near Spring Bay; but that in consequence of there not being a Port of Entry there, they are precluded from benefitting the neighbourhood by bringing back cargoes of goods direct hither.

That if Spring Bay were made a Port of Entry the produce of the other Colonies might be obtained there, without the unnecessary additional cost incurred by its being carried past the doors of the inhabitants to Hobart, and then carried back again to them,—a superfluous voyage of 180 miles.

That the proposed Port of Entry would save the stormy passage round Cape Pillar to all vessels trading between Victoria and the East Coast of Tasmania.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House to consider the disadvantages they labour under in having, in addition to the heavy Customs' Duties now in force, to pay three freights instead of one; and to urge on the Executive that in justice to our fair claims Spring Bay should be declared a Port of Entry.

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

George Rudd.
William Terry.
William Cranfield.
J. C. Turvey.
Stephen Crabtree.
James Crabtree.
John Collins.
John Burton.
Daniel Davidson.
Thomas Bickford.
Edward Burton.
Benjamin Griffiths.
Geo. H. Rudd.
Henry Collis.
Peter Haley.

James Staples.
George C. Meredith.
Samuel Salmon.
Charles Gillham.
John Conoley.
William Carter.
John Richards.
James Watkins.
William Williamson.
Thomas Wedge.
Joseph M'Neill.
George Albert Mace.
Melmoth Fletcher.
John Bresnehan.
Thomas Cuff.

Edward Ryan.
J. Desmond.
Patrick Cusick.
Richard Howard.
Henry Clark.
E. Burgess.
John Power.
John Felmingham.
James Burden.
J. H. Garetty.
Robert Robinson.
John Franklin.
Alexander Ferguson.
F. Aubin.
William Hayton.

W. Felmingham.
Patrick Ryan.
M. Morley.
Peter Macey.
William Finch.
William Fox.
F. E. Bomford.
Owen Meredith.
Michael Hurley.
Charles Meredith, junr.
John Morton.
James Hedge.
James Fieldwick.
William Clark.