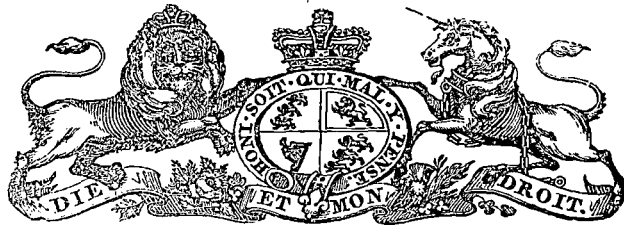


(No. 99.)



1881.

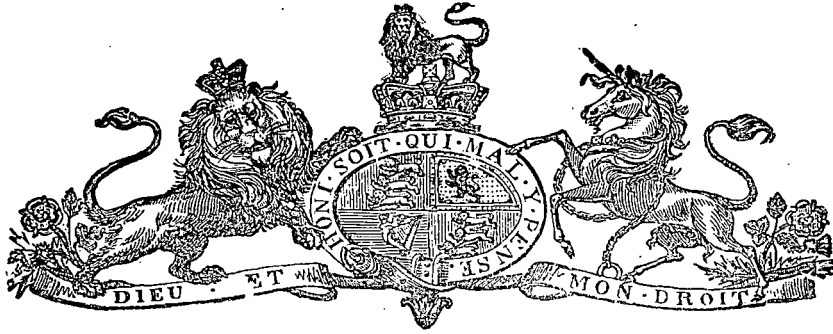
T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

POLICE OFFICE AND GAOL, HOBART:

PETITION FROM CORPORATION FOR REMOVAL.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, August 23, 1881, and ordered by the House to be printed.



Town Clerk's Office, 6th August, 1881.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to enclose a Petition from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens, and request that you will be pleased to lay it before His Excellency the Administrator of the Government the first opportunity.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY WILKINSON, *Town Clerk.*

E. C. NOWELL, *Esq., Clerk Executive Council.*

To His Excellency SIR JOHN HENRY LEFROY, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St. George, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Administrator of the Government of the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies, in Council.

The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Hobart, in Council assembled,

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners desire to bring under the consideration of Your Excellency the present objectionable site of the Police Office and Gaol, with a view to their removal.

That the Police Office and other Buildings in connection therewith have been erected on the very spot formerly used as a cesspool for the inmates of the Penitentiary. No portion of the earth or old drains having been removed, the noxious exhalations therefrom render the place totally unfit for habitation, and it is no exaggeration to say that the health of those whose duty it is to be in constant attendance in these most unwholesome offices is injured and seriously imperilled thereby. It is worthy of remark that the many and expensive attempts to remedy this wretched state of things have resulted in failure; and in addition to this the Building is limited in accommodation, and inconvenient.

That the present Gaol is deficient in that most essential element of modern prison discipline, namely, separate apartments for offenders, for classification and otherwise, and in consequence the Magistrates are often embarrassed in their endeavours to separate juvenile from old and hardened delinquents.

That it is believed it is in contemplation by the Government to make certain additions to the present Gaol, involving a large expenditure, and your Petitioners respectfully submit to Your Excellency, for the reasons adduced, that the better course would be to remove the Establishment entirely, which would be the means of improving an important part of the City, by the erection of Buildings which must inevitably follow, whereby the Revenue of the City would be proportionately augmented, and the wishes of the Citizens be gratified.

That by the sale of the Buildings and other materials of the Establishment, and the site of the land upon which it stands, the frontages of which, including the continuation of Melville-street, which, if thrown open to Campbell-street, amount collectively to 1010 feet, is estimated by competent persons to realise from £8000 to £10,000,—a sum, it is submitted, would to a considerable extent recoup the Government for the expenditure incurred in providing elsewhere suitable Gaol accommodation.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray Your Excellency will adopt such measures most conducive to effect the removal of the present Police Office and Gaol of the City of Hobart and providing another in some locality more suitable for the purpose, and with the necessary requirements, in which the existing Buildings are deficient.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

(L.S.) JAS. HARCOURT, *Mayor of the City of Hobart.*

HENRY WILKINSON, *Town Clerk.*