

(No. 58.)



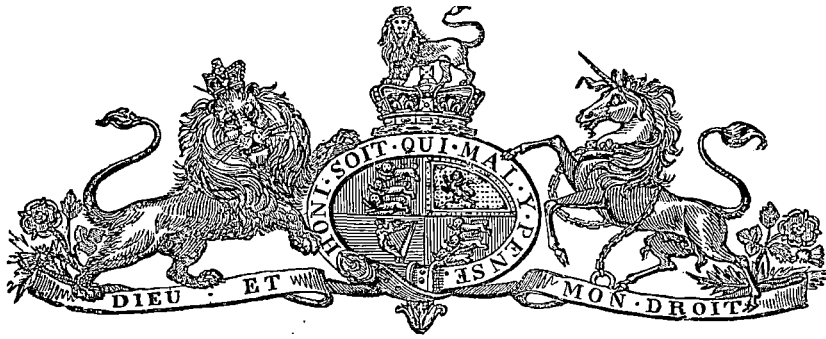
1861.

T A S M A N I A.

**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ADMISSION
AMENDMENT BILL.**

P E T I T I O N.

Presented by Mr. Henty, and ordered by the Council to be printed, January 29,
1862.



To the Honorable the Legislative Council of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Legal Profession practising in Hobart Town.

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners observe that a Bill, intituled "A Bill to amend the Law relating to the admission of Attorneys, Solicitors, Proctors, and Barristers," is now before your Honorable House.

That your Petitioners fear that, whilst it has been the desire of the House of Assembly to advance the cause of Education by dispensing with a portion of the time at present required prior to the admission of Legal Practitioners in Tasmania, it has lost sight of the fact that, in consequence of the present assimilation of the tests required, both in this Colony and in England, a great boon has been recently granted to Colonial Practitioners by a Law having been passed by the Imperial Parliament enabling them to be admitted as Attorneys and Solicitors in England; and your Petitioners have much reason to believe that, should a different standard be now adopted in Tasmania, the privilege they have so recently obtained will be taken from them.

That the admission of Barristers, as proposed in the Third Section of the Bill, is, in your Petitioners' opinion, wrong in principle; and your Petitioners feel sure that the sudden admission of Laymen to practice at the Bar, must tend to lower the status of the Profession. And your Petitioners must also point out to your Honorable House, that a Layman, admitted to the Bar to-day, may, in consequence of a change in political affairs, be forthwith raised to the high position of Attorney-General of the Colony, and be called on to exercise the important functions of Grand Jury. This tempting bait cannot fail to attract to the Bar of Tasmania adventurers from all parts of the world.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honorable House that, for the reasons herein set forth, you will be pleased to reject the said Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

W. L. Dobson.
Robt. P. Adams.
Robt. Fitzgerald.
William Pitt.
Joseph Allport.
Samuel Crisp, junr.
Robt. Bennison.
Jno. W. Graves.

Stephen Sheehy.
S. Moriarty.
Alfred J. Watchorn.
John Dobson.
John Roberts.
Charles Butler.
Thomas Young.
Morton Allport.