

(No. 77.)



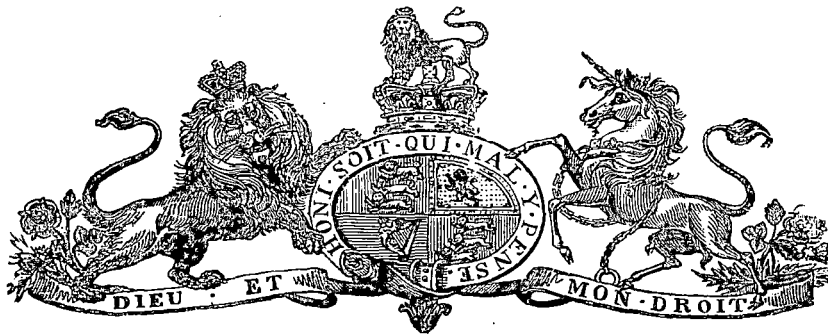
1888.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

MR. WILLIAM REID BELL:

P E T I T I O N.

Presented by Mr. Lewis, June 26, 1888; and ordered by the House of Assembly
to be printed, June 27, 1888.



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

The Petition of William Reid Bell, of Hobart, in Tasmania, Civil Engineer.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

1. THAT on 30th May last your Petitioner presented a Petition to your Honorable House, praying that an enquiry be held into the circumstances attending his dismissal from the Public Service of this Colony.

2. That on the 21st instant your Honorable House refused to appoint a Select Committee to enquire into the matter.

3. That in stating the case for the appointment of the Committee, the true grounds for such inquiry were not fully set forth.

4. That these true grounds are as follows :—

- i. That your Petitioner was dismissed without due notice being given.
- ii. That the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, in dismissing your Petitioner, set forth certain charges against him.
- iii. That the opinion of the Solicitor-General, set forth in the correspondence now before your Honorable House, requires as a necessity in dispensing with due notice that the charges brought against your Petitioner be substantiated.
- iv. That subsequently to your Petitioner's dismissal statements appeared in the public press that no imputation was cast on your Petitioner's character or reputation.
- v. That further statements thereafter appeared casting very grave imputations on the reputation of your Petitioner.
- vi. That these statements being *ex parte*, and not in accordance with the facts set forth in the correspondence now before you, did not constitute a substantiation of the charges justifying your Petitioner's dismissal.
- vii. That these statements being assumed for the sake of argument to be true, do constitute in themselves the strongest grounds for instituting an enquiry into your Petitioner's dismissal.
- viii. That the Executive Head of your Petitioner's Department has throughout supported him in his conduct of business, and has entered very strong protests on his behalf.

5. That, as the matter now stands, your Petitioner has suffered grievous injury in the eyes of the public.

6. That your Petitioner is now under engagement to leave this Colony to take up work in another country.

7. That he has already delayed his departure for a fortnight in order to obtain the redress he sought.

8. That such delay has cost your Petitioner a serious loss in time and money.

9. That he is unable further to delay his departure from this Colony.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that he may be permitted to be heard personally or by Counsel at the Bar of your Honorable House on or before Thursday, the 28th day of June instant, there to make a statement in defence of himself, and to remedy the injury done to him by the manner of his dismissal.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

WM. REID BELL.

Hobart, 26th June, 1888.