

(No. 92.)



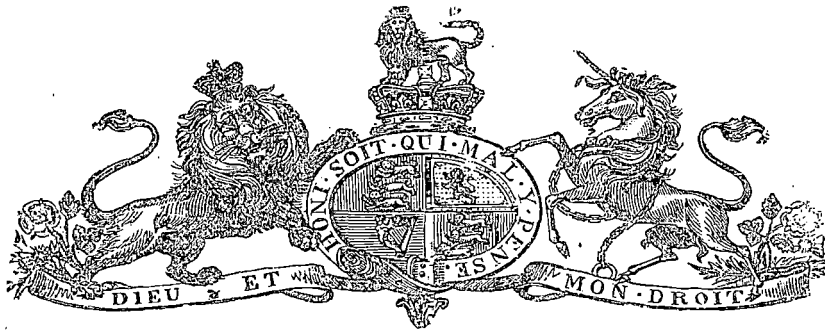
1893.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

BANK OF VAN DIEMEN'S LAND WINDING-UP
BILL, 1893, [No. 16]:

PETITION OF MINISTERS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN TASMANIA.

Presented by Mr. Crosby, September 1, 1893, and ordered by the Legislative
Council to be printed.



*To the Honorable the President and Members of the Legislative Council
of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the undersigned Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Tasmania.

HUMBLY SHEWETH :

THAT, whilst your Petitioners yield to none in their feelings of heartfelt sympathy for all who are now suffering from the failure of the Bank of Van Diemen's Land, and have been themselves grievously affected by the same disaster, yet they, as responsible teachers of Christian morals, regard with grave concern the introduction into your Honorable House of a Bill for the legalisation of a lottery to enable the said Bank to pay its debts.

Your Petitioners protest against this Bill, and base their objections on principles in their opinion incontrovertible from the point of view of any code of morality :

1. That gambling in any form cannot be introduced into business transactions without danger to society.
3. That it is fatal to the true progress of a country to depart from right principle for the sake of a present seeming advantage.
3. That the Legislature of this Colony has, in 42 Victoria, No. 17, already condemned lotteries as "to the prejudice of the common good and welfare," it would be striking a blow at political consistency if it reverses such legislation on behalf of any object, however important.
4. That, as your Honorable House by your decisions moulds the character of our public life, your Petitioners pray you, for the sake of our community, to reject a Bill which in its principles is detrimental to our moral welfare, as well as inimical to the cause of sound industrial enterprise.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 11 signatures.]

Petitions in the same terms were received—

By Mr. Crosby :

1. From Members (30) of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, (Sept. 1.)
2. From Ministers (12) of Religion, (Sept. 5.)
3. From Members (11) of the Young Women's Christian Association, (Sept. 5.)

By Mr. Dodery :

From Residents (320) in the District of Longford, (Sept. 5.)

By Mr. Gibson :

1. From the Bishop and Clergy (45) of the Church of England in Tasmania, (Sept. 7.)
2. From the President and Secretary of the Primitive Methodist Church, Launceston, (Sept. 7.)