

(No. 62.)



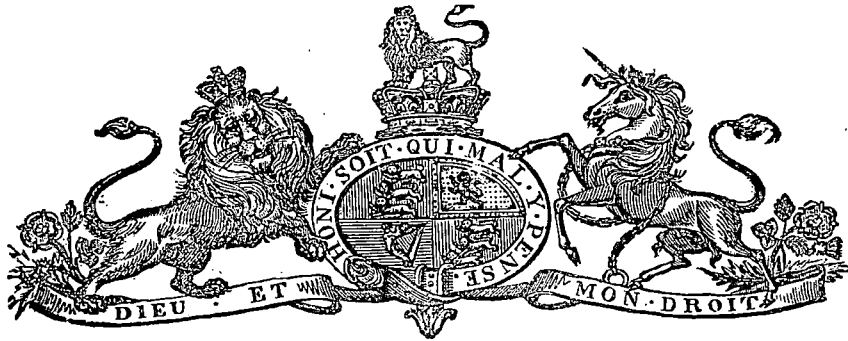
1869.

T A S M A N I A .

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION,

PETITION FROM CIRCULAR HEAD.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, August 31, 1869.



*To His Excellency CHARLES DUCANE, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief
in and over the Island of Tasmania and its Dependencies.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

WE, the undersigned Landowners and other residents of Circular Head, beg leave respectfully to address Your Excellency upon a subject of great consideration to ourselves, as well as generally to the interests of the entire population of the sea-board embraced between this section of the Colony and Launceston.

A few years ago we had Telegraphic communication with the sister Colonies,—a Station having been fixed here,—and from Circular Head by Submarine Line to George Town; but in consequence of the imperfect nature of the route selected, *viâ* King's Island and its rocky neighbourhood, we were deprived by the breakage of the Cable of all benefit arising from the receipt of rapid intelligence across the Straits.

During the period the Line was in working order (upwards of Seven Months) it was found to be self-supporting; and we readily appreciated its advantages, and could not fail to notice that the interests of the people within the District would be at all times strengthened by the continuance of such communication.

The exports at Circular Head to Foreign Ports alone, during the last three years, have exceeded £60,000, and the imports in a corresponding ratio. This, however, does not embrace a large additional item for produce shipped coast-wise to Launceston, which includes all the wool for transhipment to England.

During a considerable portion of the year, a much larger business is transacted at Circular Head than at any other Sub-port on the North-west Coast.

A Branch Line passing overland from Circular Head along the coast would gather business at all the Townships existing throughout the route,—at Table Cape, Emu Bay, the Blyth, the Leven, the Forth, the Don, the Mersey, and Port Sorell, on to Deloraine; and we cannot help conceiving that the material benefit of any Company would be served by not neglecting to embrace so extensive a coast line, with its constantly increasing population and concomitant wants.

Very little difficulty would be experienced in forming the proposed route,—the country along the coast being generally open and materials easy of access; whilst the farms are now sufficiently connected to render the cost of repairs, if needed from time to time, trifling in amount.

Your Excellency's Petitioners are therefore desirous of being again placed in Telegraphic communication with Melbourne, and respectfully solicit Your Excellency's favourable consideration in bringing the subject under the notice of Parliament.

And Your Excellency's Petitioners will ever pray.

Tasmania, Circular Head, 29th March, 1869.

[Here follow 114 Signatures.]