

(No. 62.)



1870.

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T A S M A N I A .

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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C U S T O M S D U T Y .

PETITION FROM DEALERS IN EARTHENWARE, GLASSWARE,  
AND CHINAWARE.

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Presented by Mr. Aikenhead, September 21; and ordered by the Council to be  
printed, September 23, 1870.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Earthenware, Glassware, and Chinaware Dealers of the Town of Launceston.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have seen from the statement of the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer that it is proposed to place a Package Duty of 1s. per cubic foot on Earthenware, Chinaware, and Glassware of every description, excepting Jars for Jams.

That only two years ago, viz., during the Session of 1868, the Duty on these articles was doubled, being raised from 10s. to 20s. per package, which has had the effect of causing an annual loss to your Petitioners, inasmuch as in the depressed state of the times a price adequate to the increased Duty cannot be obtained for any of these goods, which cannot be manufactured in Tasmania, and therefore must be imported from other places.

That the proposed Duty of 1s. per cubic foot is most excessive, as it will place upon some of these goods,—and more especially on common articles such as are generally used, being bulky,—from £2 to £3 per package, being from 50 to 80 per cent. on English value, thereby causing such a price to be placed upon them as will prove most obstructive to their sale.

That, of all imported goods, those named are the most liable to breakages, which in many cases is heavy, so that your Petitioners, under the proposed Duty, would not only suffer from the loss by breakage, but also in having to pay 1s. per cubic foot for the space occupied by all broken articles. Under these and other circumstances already named your Petitioners consider it would press doubly hard upon them, and trust that your Honorable House will be pleased to withhold its assent from the proposed Duties on the articles alluded to.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 15 Signatures.]