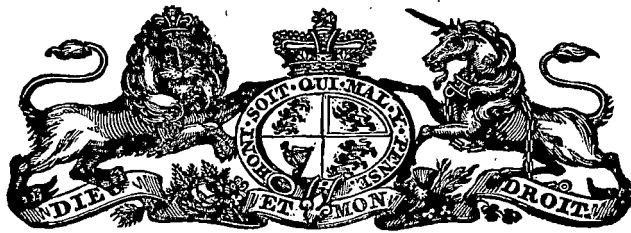


(No. 85.)



1876.

---

T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

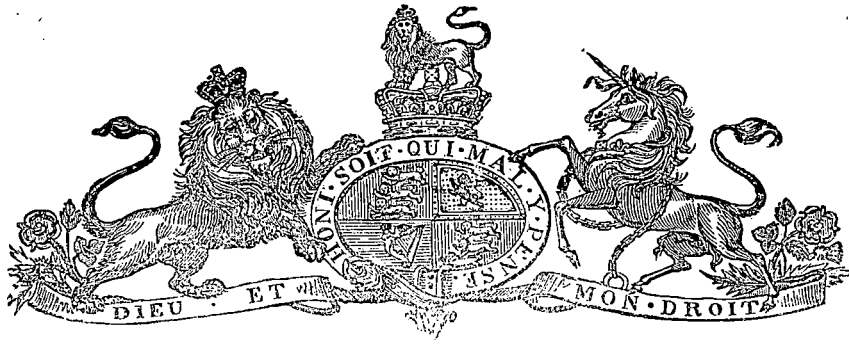
---

W H A L I N G V E S S E L S.

P E T I T I O N F R O M M E R C H A N T S , S H I P O W N E R S , A N D O T H E R S  
A G A I N S T T H E M E R C H A N T S H I P S O F F I C E R S E X A M I N A T I O N  
B I L L .

---

Presented by Mr. Giblin, and ordered by the House to be printed, October 12,  
1876.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Merchants, Shipowners, and Trading Community of  
Hobart Town.

HUMBLY SHEWETH :

That your Petitioners, being engaged in commercial pursuits at the Port of Hobart Town, are desirous of affording every encouragement to the whaling trade ; but according to the Act 38 Vict. No. 3, and to the Bill now before your Honorable House, which require that masters and mates of whaling vessels shall be amenable to legislative control by compelling them to hold certificates of service, your Petitioners believe that if the present law is not repealed, and the present Bill altered accordingly, whaling operations must cease from this Port.

Your Petitioners, in urging the consideration of your Honorable House, would desire to state—

That no cause has arisen, either from the public service or from the interests of whaling proprietors or of those in their employment, demanding that masters and mates should be placed under the control contemplated by the Bill referred to.

That the whaling trade has been one of the most important branches of Tasmania's commerce during the last fifty years, in which long period legislation has always protected it by removing every obstacle to its prosecution.

That should whaling cease from this Port the large number of men who are unfit for other occupation would be thrown out of employment; and not only they but also our principal tradesmen, such as coopers, shipwrights, boatbuilders, and others, would be deprived of their means of subsistence.

Your Petitioners would therefore humbly pray your Honorable House will not allow the said Bill to pass into Law in its present form, and will further exempt the whaling vessels entirely from its provisions.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[*Here follow 35 Signatures.*]