

(No. 79.)

1878.

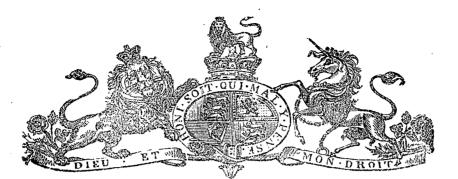
TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

VOTING POWERS:

PETITIONS FROM RATEPAYERS FOR AMENDMENT.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Dooley; and ordered by the House to be printed, September 5, 1878.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Latrobe and vicinity.

HUMBLY SHOWETH:

THAT the system of voting for Road Trustees and Municipal Councillors by law established and now in force in Tasmania gives an undue preponderance to large property holders, whilst it wholly deprives a large class of small proprietors from any share in the election of such officers, notwithstanding that all are alike liable for their quota of rates and taxes imposed by these institutions.

That such a system of class legislation tends to bring into disrepute these institutions, which were designed for, and if properly worked would lead to, the benefit and respect of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will adopt such measures as will regulate these institutions so that every person liable for any local rates or taxes through the operation of these institutions may have and give at least one vote at any election, and that no person shall have or give at any election a greater number of votes than five.

And Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 105 Signatures.]

Petitions in the same terms were presented at the same time from—

Launceston, with 137 signatures. Stoodley, with 38 signatures. Kentishbury, with 71 signatures. East Mersey, with 19 signatures.

> JAMES BARNARD, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.

In continuation of Paper No. 79.

[Laid upon the Table by Mr. Dooley, and ordered by the House to be printed, October 11, 1878.]

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

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Ross.

HUMBLY SHOWETH :

THAT the system of voting for Road Trustees and Municipal Councillors, by law established and now in force in Tasmania, gives an undue preconderance to large property holders, whilst it wholly deprives a large class of small proprietors from any share in the election of such officers, notwithstanding that all are alike liable for their quota of rates and taxes imposed by these institutions.

That such a system of class legislation tends to bring into disrepute these institutions, which were designed for, and if properly worked would lead to, the benefit and respect of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will adopt such measures as will regulate these institutions, so that every person liable for any local rates or taxes through the operations of these institutions may have and give at least one vote at any election, and that no person shall have or give at any election a greater number of votes than five.

And Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 22 Signatures.]

A Petition in the same terms was also presented from— Deloraine, with 125 signatures.

JAMES BARNARD, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.