

1857.

TASMANIA.

PETITION

FROM FINGAL.—MASTERS AND SERVANTS LAW.

Presented by Mr. Attorney-General, and ordered by the House to be printed, 26 January, 1858.



To the Honourable the Speaker and House of Assembly, forming the Second Branch of the Parliament of Tasmania.

The Memorial of the Inhabitants of the District of Fingal, represented generally by the undersigned, and in reference to the Master and Servants Act now before Parliament.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

That Memorialists firmly believe the said Act to be totally unadapted to the peculiar circumstances of the Colony.

That it cannot benefit the labouring classes, but on the contrary further tend to demoralise them.

That it cannot, and will not, afford protection to the employers of labour.

That the result of passing said Act will infallibly be to disorganise society in this community, and to depopulate the Island, so far as its most worthy and valuable inhabitants are concerned.

That the existing Law as regards labour is infinitely superior for a long time to come here: nevertheless, if any alteration should be found absolutely necessary, let the New Law be assimilated to the Law of England, so far as may be suited to our peculiar case: thus, all cause of complaint, real or imaginary, will be removed amongst Immigrants of both classes.

That for these and other reasons, which Memorialists refrain now from particularising, they pray that the said proposed Act may not pass into a Law.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

James Grant, Tullochgorum.
Robert Clerk, Malahide.
James Grant, junior, Tullochgorum.
Fredk. L. Stieglitz, Killymoon.
Joseph Ward, Fingal.
Thomas Ransom, Mill Brook.
John Stanfield, Fingal.

William Duncan, ditto.
Daniel Pestell, ditto.
A. Barkway, Cullenswood.
Charles Peters, Fingal.
James Gilligan, ditto.
James Andrews, ditto.

N.B. After completing this, it was found that other sections of the District had adopted another Memorial to the same effect, so that to save time and travel both will be forwarded.