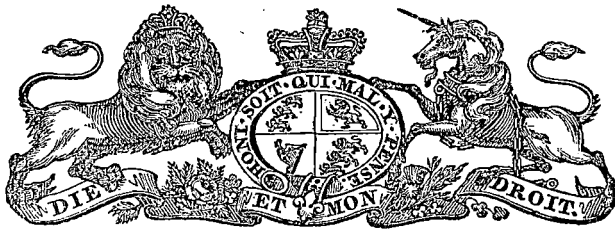


(No. 64.)



1867.

T A S M A N I A.

D U T Y O N R U M.

P E T I T I O N F O R R E D U C T I O N.

Presented by Mr. Davies; and ordered by the House to be printed, 24 September,
1867.



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

The humble Petition of the undersigned Merchants and Dealers in Spirits, trading at Hobart Town in Tasmania.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners humbly submit for your Honorable Assembly's consideration :—That, should a Resolution or Bill be submitted for approval during the Session, having the effect of a reduction of the Customs' Duties on the article of Rum as an import, so as to assimilate (so far as may be) the equalisation in amount of Duty to that of the other Australian Colonies,—we pray your assent to the same.

That your Petitioners beg further to submit that the present high Duty on the import of the Spirit referred to, if reduced, would have the effect to increase the Revenue by a greater consumption of a Spirit now so largely used in this Colony, and thus at the same time operate as a deterrent to Illicit Distillation now so largely carried on, to the country's loss in revenue, and likewise to your Petitioners as fair dealers.

That your Petitioners beg your consideration of the fact that the amount of Duty levied in the other Australian Colonies varies from Eight Shillings, but does not exceed in any of them Ten Shillings, per gallon.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray the consideration of the matters aforesaid ; and that your assent may be given to such a reduction of Duty as in the wisdom of your Honorable House may seem meet.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Hobart Town, September, 1867.

[Here follow 83 Signatures.]