

(No. 32.)



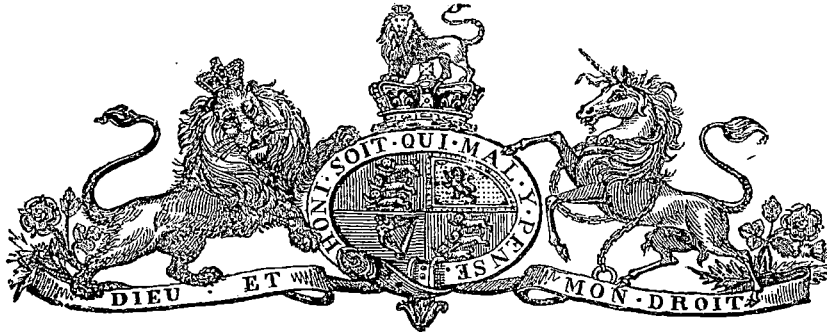
1858.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N

FROM MINISTERS OF RELIGION, LAUNCESTON.
MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

Presented by Mr. Button, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
6 October, 1858.



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

The Memorial of the undersigned Ministers of Religion in the Town of Launceston, in the said Island.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

THAT your Petitioners regard with satisfaction the introduction of a Bill vesting in the Supreme Court jurisdiction in respect of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.

That, whilst the Clauses of the said Bill—which provide for a dissolution of Marriage in cases of Adultery—are, in the opinion of Petitioners, consistent with the principles of the New Testament, they afford in such cases a legal mode of redress to all classes by processes which, hitherto, have been accessible only to persons having the command of large pecuniary resources.

That great wrong has been hitherto sustained by persons of both sexes in this Colony in cases wherein the husband or the wife has been guilty of notorious Adultery, in consequence of the great distance from the Courts of the Mother Country, and the expensive process by which alone redress could be had.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the Matrimonial Causes Bill, now before your Honorable House, may pass without delay.

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

HENRY DOWLING, *Baptist Minister.*
CHARLES PRICE, *Independent Minister.*
THOMAS BROCAS HARRIS, *Wesleyan Minister.*
JAMES LINDSAY, *Minister of the Free Church.*