

(No. 145.)



1885.

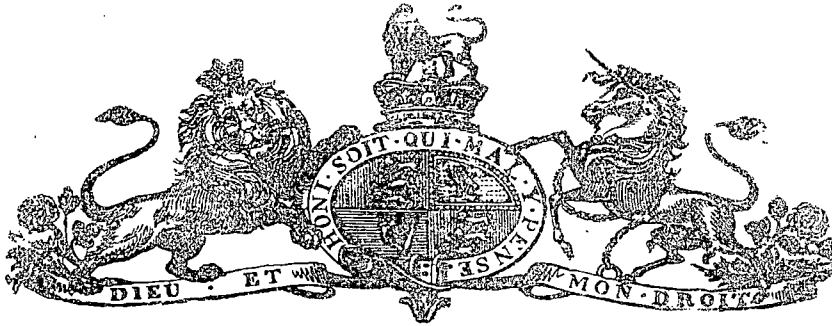
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

KEROSENE OIL :

PETITION FROM MESSRS. MACFARLANE BROTHERS.

Return to an Order of the House of Assembly. (Mr. Pillinger.)

Laid upon the Table by the Treasurer, November 3; and ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed, November 6, 1885.



To His Excellency the Governor in Council, Hobart.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

WE, the Importers of Kerosene Oil *ex* "Zoila," condemned under the Amended Customs Act passed during the present Session of Parliament, humbly beg your consideration of the following facts:—

That the Kerosene was ordered from America in accordance with Law, and was several months at sea before the Amended Law was proposed and passed, so that we had no opportunity of countermanding it.

That the Kerosene is of the same brand and fire-test, 120 degrees, as we have imported for 10 years, and that upwards of 30,000 cases have been consumed in this Colony with advantage to the consumer, and that we had no reason to expect its sale would be forbidden,—lower-test Oils being then imported.

That the Oil was seized by the Customs Authorities on Thursday, the 12th September, and that on the 28th September we were prevented from exporting it, and informed in writing, so late as the 29th, it was forfeited.

That, in consequence, sales we had been endeavouring to make were lost to us, and our Oil injured in New South Wales, the only neighbouring Colony available.

That this day we are informed under date 20th October, from the Treasurer, that "the Kerosene shall be delivered to us on condition that it is re-exported from this Colony on payment by us of all charges connected therewith, and that we shall receive compensation to an extent not exceeding the amount of freight paid for the carriage of the Oil from Hobart to Sydney."

That the actual cost of this Kerosene to us in Bond here is $10\frac{1}{16}d.$ per gallon, that the value of similar Oils in this market is $11d.$ per gallon, and our best efforts to effect a sale in Sydney show that the value there is $7\frac{1}{16}d.$ per gallon *ex* ship, or equal to $9d.$ per gallon in Bond, and that to relieve us only of the freight to Sydney is a very limited portion of our actual loss, which we estimate as shown now at $3d.$ per gallon over and above the freight to Sydney.

We respectfully submit that, having ordered the Kerosene according to law, without means of countermanding it, we may be compensated for our actual loss.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

MACFARLANE BROS. & Co.

71, Macquarie-street, Hobart, 21st October, 1885.