

(No. 22.)



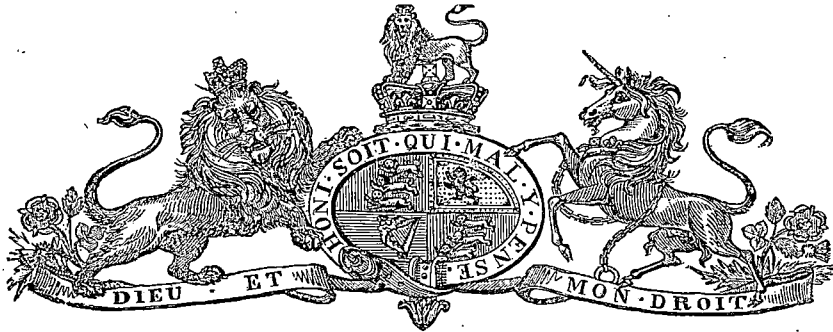
1858.

T A S M A N I A.

P E T I T I O N.

P U B L I C E X P E N D I T U R E.

Presented by Mr. Boys, and ordered by the House to be printed,
16 September, 1858.



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

The Petition of the undersigned Merchants, Bankers, Shopkeepers, Tradesmen, Artisans, Laborers, and other Inhabitants of the City of Hobart Town and its suburbs.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

1. THAT your Petitioners are deeply impressed with the conviction that the Expenditure of the Government of this Colony, considering the number of its population, is excessive, unnecessary, and depressing.

2. That the existence of so many Departments, thus augmenting the amount of work to be performed, involving delay in its performance, and destroying the vigour and efficiency of the Public Service, is wholly unsuited to the requirements of the Colony, whilst it entails upon the people an amount of taxation which they are unable to bear.

3. That your Petitioners are solemnly convinced that, by amalgamating several of the existing Departments with other existing Departments, the Expenditure of the Colony might be considerably reduced, and the efficiency of the Public Service increased.

4. That your Petitioners make it their prayer to your Honorable House that you will cause rigid inquiries to be made into the Expenditure of the large sums annually voted for Charitable Allowances, Convict Discipline, Grants in Aid, Stores, *et cetera*; that your Honorable House will be pleased to enquire into the expediency of continuing the Annual Grant of Fifteen thousand Pounds per annum to Religion; and that you will cause the most searching investigation to be instituted relative to the benefits derived by the Colony from the enormous amount of money expended upon Immigration.

5. That your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will take these premises into your consideration, and steadily refuse to vote any money for the Public Service until a comprehensive scheme of reduction by consolidation has been effected; and that you will be pleased, also, to decline granting money for any purpose whatever until detailed items of the past, or the contemplated Expenditure of such money, have been laid before your Honorable House.

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

[*Here follow 1036 Signatures.*]