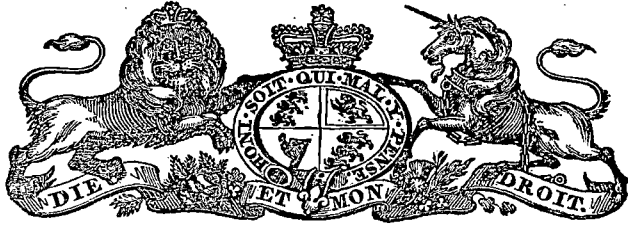


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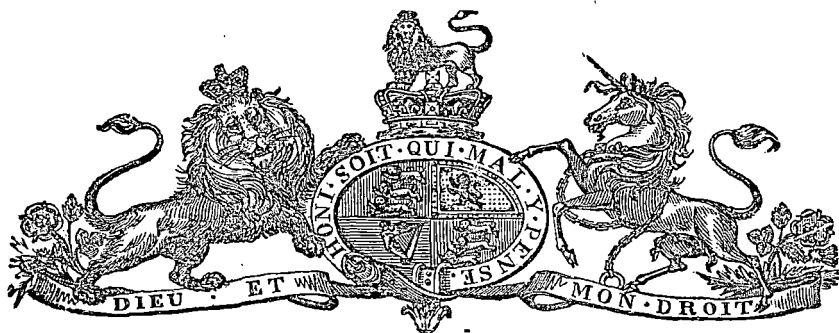
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

CUSTOMS' DUTIES BILL.

PETITION FROM MAYOR OF HOBART TOWN AGAINST PASSING.

Presented by Mr. Fysh, August 26; and ordered by the Council to be printed,
August 27, 1868.



To the Honorable the Legislative Council, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Citizens of Hobart Town and Colonists of Tasmania, in Public Meeting assembled.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners have observed with surprise and regret that, in the face of a failing Revenue from Customs, and in the midst of very general depression amongst the Trading and Industrial classes throughout the Colony, Her Majesty's Ministers have submitted to Parliament estimates of Expenditure which can only be met by a resort to additional taxation.

That your Petitioners believe and are convinced that the financial proposals of Her Majesty's Ministers are not such as are suited to the present state of the Colony ; and that the system of continually resorting to the Customs to supplement a failing Revenue is wrong in principle, and presses unduly upon the Commercial and Industrial interests of the community.

That your Petitioners feel constrained to assure your Honorable House that the proposals of Her Majesty's Ministers to increase the fiscal burdens of the people are a departure from the pledges given by those Ministers to the Country at the last General Election, and prior to their taking office ; and that your Petitioners are firmly of opinion that the ordinary and necessary expenditure could be fully met from existing sources of Revenue, and without resorting to additional taxation if Her Majesty's Ministers would only continue to carry out still further their pledges and promises of judicious economy and financial retrenchment.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the Estimates of Expenditure as submitted by Her Majesty's Ministers, and not to pass a Bill now before Parliament, intituled "The Customs Duties Bill," No. 25, and to withhold your assent from any other proposals for imposing additional burdens on the people.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

On behalf of the Meeting,

JAMES MILNE WILSON, (*Mayor*), *Chairman*.

Town Hall, August 25, 1868.