

(No. 66.)



1881.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

CAMPBELL TOWN WATER DISTRICT:

PETITION OF LANDHOLDERS.

Presented by Mr. Gellibrand, July 20; and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 21, 1881.



*To the Honorable the President and Members of the Legislative Council
of Tasmania, in Parliament assembled.*

The humble Petition of the undersigned Landholders within the Campbell Town Water District,
under the Act 42 Victoria, No. 20.

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioners, under the Schedule of the said Act, hold lands within the said District which are quite distinct from and cannot possibly derive the slightest benefit from the proposal to increase the supply of water to the Elizabeth River for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Town of Campbell Town.

That the said Schedule includes lands extending west from the Macquarie River as far as the River Isis and to the boundary of the Municipalities, both of which rivers give a constant water supply to your Petitioners' lands; they are therefore independent of that from the Elizabeth River, which can be of no value or benefit to them.

That, on the contrary, it will affect the lands in several cases most injuriously, by increasing the summer supply and by flooding certain lands through the filling up of the bed of the Macquarie River. The present constant stream causes the growth of weeds and grass in that river.

That the said Schedule should be amended. Properties already having an ample supply of water should be excluded from the operation of said Act and Schedule. Further, your Petitioners protest against having their lands assessed for what can be of no possible benefit to them. They trust your Honorable House will amend the said Schedule accordingly.

That the said Act was passed specially for the benefit of the residents in Campbell Town, and your Petitioners submit that no majorities of votes should be used against a minority who are outside of the proposed alterations. Your Petitioners will receive no benefit from it; on the contrary, they are already independent of it. Such a scheme can only operate to the injury or loss of your Petitioners.

That some of the Landholders residing in the Campbell Town District contributed in former years to the expense and cost of a supply of water from Toombs' Lake to the Macquarie River. This gave them a permanent supply quite independent of the Elizabeth River.

Your Petitioners also respectfully take exception to the action of a Deputation said to have waited upon Ministers on the 19th May last, in reference to the matter now brought under the notice of your Honorable House. With every desire to accord to those gentlemen credit for good intentions, it is respectfully submitted that they were not delegates from your Petitioners, who had never heard of their appointment till the same was notified in the press, while the arguments said to be used were partial and outside of the interest of your Petitioners or the settlers generally in the Macquarie District.

May it therefore please your Honorable House to take the statements contained in the Petition into your favourable consideration, and to deal with the same as to your Honorable House may seem meet.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

James T. Bayles, 5000 acres, valued £503.

Charles Headlam, 5848 acres, valued £741.

George Fredk. Thirkell, land, valued £520.

Melmoth Fletcher, jun., 1956 acres, valued £180, (managing exor. late R. Gatenby's estate.

Edward Archer, Levrington, 8020 acres, valued £750.

Emerson H. Bayles, occupier Stockwell, 1926 acres, value £200: Morningside, 1947 acres, value £189; Woodford, 1440 acres, value £142; Overton, 928 acres, value £95;— occupier; with a reversionary interest under the will of the late James Mercer.

Thos. Riggall; Windfall Marshes, 2965 acres, annual value £130; occupier, with a reversionary interest.

Representing 33,468 acres, valued £3450 yearly rental.