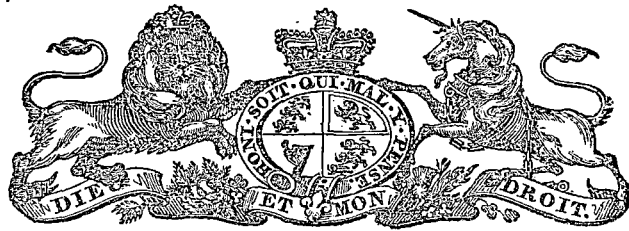


(No. 98.)



1868.

T A S M A N I A.

WATER RATES, LAUNCESTON.

PETITION IN FAVOR OF BILL TO ALTER CHARGES FOR
WATER SUPPLY.

Presented by Mr. Lette, and ordered by the House to be printed, September 11,
1868.



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

The humble Petition of the Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Launceston.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

THAT the Launceston Corporation has spent the sum of Forty thousand Pounds in the erection of works to supply the Town with water.

That to enable them to do so the money was borrowed on the security of a special rate authorised to be levied on the Burgesses.

That by the existing Act of Parliament this rate cannot exceed six per cent. per annum on the valued annual rental of each dwelling-house or building; and from a statement hereunto annexed it will be seen that the Yearly Revenue of the Water Works Department, from all sources, will be Three hundred and thirty-three Pounds short of the Expenditure.

That, independently of this, the works, from constant tear and wear, are gradually getting deteriorated, and in the course of a few years a large sum will be required for new piping.

That the charge for water cannot be considered a rate on the Burgesses in the usual acceptation of the term, for they receive far more than an equivalent for their outlay.

That prior to the introduction of water by the Corporation the sum paid by the Carters to the proprietor of the tanks at the Cataract Mills was one shilling per load, and the charge by the Carters, when delivered, varied from Three Shillings to Five Shillings, so that allowing each house occupier to have used only one load per week (instead of an unlimited supply which he now has) he had thus, at the lower figure, to disburse annually for water alone Seven pounds sixteen shillings.

That it is but fair and just the Corporation should receive what they have actually to pay by way of interest on the capital they have borrowed for the sole benefit of the Burgesses and to meet the current expenses: and, with this object in view, your Petitioners have caused a Bill to be presented to your Honorable House empowering them to make certain reasonable alterations in the charge for the water supply.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House to take the premises into your favorable consideration, and to direct that the said Bill be passed into law.

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

WILLIAM HART, *Acting Mayor*,
For Mayor & Aldermen.

Municipal Council Chambers, September 10, 1868.

Statement hereinbefore referred to.

Valued rent of Properties for 1868, but, as is always the case, the amount will be greatly reduced at the next Appeal Court.....	£67,671	0	0
Deduct under Property Valuation Act.....	10,150	0	0
	<u>£57,521</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Rate at 6 per cent. as now allowed.....	£3451	0	0
Less empty houses, not chargeable, and to be remitted on account of poverty.....	684	0	0
	<u>£2767</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Receivable for extra supply from Government, Brewers, Manufacturers, and others.....	539	0	0
	<u>£3306</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Interest on £40,000 at 6 per cent.....	£2400		
Annual expense of maintaining Water Works Department...	1239		
	<u>3639</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Deficiency.....	<u>£333</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

WILLIAM HART, *Acting Mayor*,
For Mayor & Aldermen.