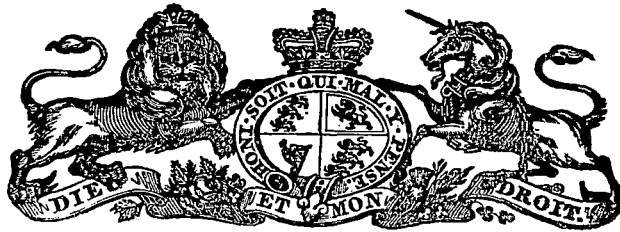


(No. 82.)



1870.

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T A S M A N I A.

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WILLIAM TURNER.

PETITION AGAINST FELLMONGERS BILL.

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Presented by Mr. Rocher, September 16, 1870, and ordered by the House to be printed.



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

The humble Petition of WILLIAM TURNER, of Launceston, in Tasmania, Tanner and Fellmonger.

SHOWETH :

THAT your Petitioner has carried on the business of a Tanner and Fellmonger upon an allotment of land fronting on Frederick-street, in the Town of Launceston, for a period of twelve years and upwards, and that your Petitioner still carries on the same business upon that allotment and upon part of an adjoining allotment which fronts on Frederick-street and also on Bathurst-street.

That by the 8th Section of the Sheep and Cattle Stealing Prevention Act, 1859, (23 Victoria, No. 17,) every person carrying on the business of a Tanner is required to obtain a Tanner's Licence in such manner as is by that Act directed; and by the same Act it is declared that the expression "Tanner" shall mean and include Fellmonger and Dealer in Skins.

That in each year from the time of the passing of the last-mentioned Act your Petitioner has obtained a Tanner's Licence in the manner prescribed by that Act.

That throughout the whole of the above-mentioned period of twelve years your Petitioner has so conducted his said business of a Tanner and Fellmonger as to occasion no inconvenience to his neighbours; and that no one of the neighbours of your Petitioner has at any time complained to him of any nuisance or inconvenience arising from the premises which he occupies, or from the business there carried on.

That your Petitioner has expended more than Four thousand Pounds in the erection and construction of buildings and machinery for the purposes of his trade on his said premises, and that the larger part of this sum has been expended within the last four years.

That a portion of the buildings and machinery thus erected would be rendered worthless to your Petitioner if he were at once compelled to give up his business as a Fellmonger, continuing that of a Tanner only.

That your Petitioner believes, that if he is compelled to discontinue his business as a Fellmonger and to carry on that of a Tanner only, a yearly sum of not less than Three hundred Pounds will be thereby subtracted from the profits of your Petitioner's business.

That on the tenth day of August last your Petitioner received a letter addressed to him by the Town Clerk of Launceston, which letter states that complaint had been made that your Petitioner was carrying on the trade of a Fellmonger on his premises contrary to the provisions of the Act of Parliament in such case provided, and that he (the Town Clerk) had been instructed by the Municipal Council to intimate that unless your Petitioner forthwith discontinued that business an information would be laid against him.

That your Petitioner has since been informed that a Bill has been prepared and submitted to your Honorable House, intituled "A Bill to amend, so far as respects the Town of Launceston, the Act 23 Victoria, No. 17;" and that by such Bill it is proposed to enact that, so far as respects the Town of Launceston, the word "Tanner" in the Sheep and Cattle Stealing Prevention Act, 1859, shall not mean or include the business of a Fellmonger, and that any licence granted or to be granted under the last-mentioned Act for tanning purposes in the said Town shall give or confer no authority or right to the holder thereof to carry on the business of a Fellmonger in the said Town.

That the circumstances above set forth caused your Petitioner to enquire into the state of the Law in relation to his business as a Tanner and Fellmonger; and your Petitioner is now advised that the 49th Section of the Launceston Building Act (18 Victoria, No. 18) makes it unlawful for any person to carry on the business of a Fellmonger after the expiration of twenty years from the passing of that Act at a less distance than forty feet from any public way, or than fifty feet from any dwelling-house.

That, as the last-mentioned Act will prevent your Petitioner and every other person from carrying on the business of a Fellmonger in the Town of Launceston after the fourth day of November One thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, the Bill submitted to your Honorable House would, if it became Law, deprive your Petitioner (in common with every Fellmonger in Launceston) of his right to carry on his business for the next four years, and to make arrangements during that period for the removal of his plant and machinery to some other suitable place without unnecessary injury to his business.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honorable House will not allow the Bill above referred to to become Law.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

W. TURNER.