

(No. 24.)



1859.

T A S M A N I A.

JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT.

PETITION FROM LAUNCESTON.

Presented by Mr. Button, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
8 September, 1859.



To the Honorable the Legislative Council, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents of Launceston.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT, in the opinion of your Petitioners, as Judges are expressly excluded from the House of Assembly, the same should obtain in reference to the Legislative Council.

That it is undesirable Judges should mingle in the angry arena of Politics, and that their activity there is calculated to bring them into contact with individuals and interests by which the dignity and impartiality of the Bench might be impaired.

That questions have arisen—and others are likely to arise—in Parliament, the final decision of which will rest with the Supreme Court ; and it is, therefore, at once unwise and impolitic that a Judge should occupy a position either as a simple Member or Chairman or President, and vote or rule in a matter which he may afterwards be called upon to review.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take steps to render Judges of Her Majesty's Supreme Court ineligible as Legislators.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 145 Signatures.]